PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SECOND SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGES

Friday, the 11th March 1932.

Personnel of the Government of Madras 1–10
Members present 11
I. Questions and Answers 12–32, 76–77
II. Adjournment motion *re* the continuance of the reduced rate for motor vehicles plying for hire 33–34
III. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand I—Land Revenue—Reserved 34–59
Demand II—Excise—Transferred 59–75
IV. Papers laid on the table of the House 75, 78–99

Saturday, the 12th March 1932.

Members present 101
I. Questions and Answers 102–120, 179–180
II. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand II—Excise—Transferred—*cont.* 121–129
Demand III—Stamps—Reserved 130–138
Demand IV—Forest—Reserved 138–165
Demand V—Registration—Transferred 165–175
Demand VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved 175–178

Monday, the 14th March 1932.

Members present 181
I. Questions and Answers 182–186, 248–249
II. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved—*cont.* 186–211
Demand VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved .. 211–219
Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved 220–247

Tuesday, the 15th March 1932

Members present 251
I. Swearing in of Members 252
II. Questions and Answers 252–254
III. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved 255–266
Demand X—Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved 266–321

Wednesday, the 16th March 1932.

Members present 323–324
I. Questions and Answers 324–332
II. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred 332–359
Demand XII—Administration of Justice—Reserved .. 359–361, 363–386
Demand XIII—Jails—Reserved 386–392

PAGES

Thursday, the 17*th March* 1932.

Members present 393–394
I. Questions and Answers 394–408, 468
II. Dispersal by the Police of the 'Buy Indian League' procession at Narasapur 408–410
III. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand XIII—Jails—Reserved—*cont.* 410–432
Demand XIV—Police—Reserved 432–458
Demand XV—Agent for Government Consignments—Reserved .. 458–462
Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved 462–466
IV. Papers laid on the table of the House 467, 469–470

Friday, the 18*th March* 1932.

Members present 471–472
I. Questions and Answers 472–483, 530–531
II. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved—*cont.* 483–495
Demand XVII—Education—Transferred 495–529

Saturday, the 19*th March* 1932.

Members present 533–534
I. Questions and Answers 534–542
II. Dispersal by the Police of the 'Buy Indian League' procession at Narasapur 542–543
III. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand XVII—Education—Transferred—*cont.* 543–560
Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved—(European) 560–577
Demand XIX—Medical—Transferred 577–603

Monday, the 21*st March* 1932.

Members present 605–606
I. Questions and Answers 606–623, 675–677
II. Alleged discourtesy shown by a Government Member in answering a supplementary question 623–624
III. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand XX—Public Health—Transferred 624–649
Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred 649–672
Demand XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred 672–674

Tuesday, the 22*nd March* 1932.

Members present 679
I. Questions and Answers 680–687
II. Adjournment motion *re* the alleged compulsion and use of force by the Police of Rajahmundry on certain persons wearing khaddar .. 688–689
III. Early rising of the House on account of Lunar Eclipse 689
IV. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932–33 :
Demand XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred—*cont.* .. 690–707
Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies—Transferred 707–728
Demand XXIV—Cinchona—Reserved 728–735
Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred 735–742

Wednesday, the 23*rd March* 1932.

Members present 743
I. Questions and Answers 744–764, 824
II. Allotment of a day for the discussion of the Retrenchment Committee Report 764
III. The Public Accounts Committee for 1932–33 765
IV. The Finance Committee for 1932–33 765
V. Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway. 765–766

PAGES

Wednesday, the 23rd March 1932—cont.

VI. Demands for Supplementary Grants for 1931-32:
Grant *IV*—Forest—Reserved 766
Grant VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved .. 766–775
Grant X—Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved 775
Grant XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred 775–778
VII. The Madras Co-operative Societies Bill 778–795
VIII. The Madras Cotton Control Bill 795–815, 824–828
IX. A Bill further to amend the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931 815–823
X. Papers laid on the table of the House 823, 829–833

Thursday, the 24th March 1932.

Members present 835–836
I. Questions and Answers 836, 961, 1001–1024
II. Voting of Demands for Grants for 1932-33:
Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred 961–979
Demand XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred 979–989
Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved 989–995
III. Election of Members to the Public Accounts Committee and the Finance Committee for 1932-33 995–996
IV. Election of Members to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee 996
V. Announcement regarding the number of questions received and answered during the session 996
VI. Demands passed by the operation of Guillotine 996–997
VII. His Excellency the Governor's Address and Prorogation 997–1000
VIII. Papers laid on the table of the House 1000, 1025–1046

INDEX TO THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SECOND SESSION OF THE FOURTH LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Volume LXI.

11th to 24th March 1932.

PAGES.

A

Abdul Hameed Khan, Mr.—
Adjournment motion *re*—
Motor vehicles plying for hire — 33
" Buy Indian League " procession at Narasapur, dispersal by the police of the — 409, 410
Bills—
Cotton Control *Bill*, the Madras 796
Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, Bill to amend the — 821–822
Budget motion *re*—
Excise policy of the Government 64–66
European schools — 570–571, 575, 576
Industrial policy of the Government 965–968
Jails, reformation of — 386–388
Land Revenue Policy of Government— 41–42
Madras Legislative Council, allowances of Members of — 256–257
Ministers, policy of — 332–336
Muslim representation in the Judiciary 376–379
Port Trust, Madras, representation of interests on the — 460–461
Public Health Department 630–632
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous — 275–278
Supplementary Question—
Alleged discourtesy in answering a — 623, 624
See Questions and Answers.

Accident register—
Question *re* placing on the table copy of the — of Volunteer in-patients in Wenlock Hospital 402–404

Accidents—
See Motor Cars.

Adi-Dravida Pupils—
Question *re* admission into public schools of — 253–254
Adi-Dravidas—
Question *re* — on the Chingleput District Board 540
,, Recruitment of — *to the Police constabulary* 850
,, Representation of — in Government Press 26–27

Adjournment motion *re*—
" Buy Indian League " procession at Narasapur, Police dispersal of the —. 408–410
Rajahmundry Police, alleged compulsion and use of force by the — on certain khaddar-clad persons 688–689

Administration of Justice—
Budget motion *re* — 359–361, 363–386
See Demand for Grant.

Advocate political prisoners—
Question *re* classification of — 751

Agency Tracts—Reserved—
See Demand for Grant.

PAGES

A—cont.

Agent for Government Consignments—Reserved—
See Demand for Grant.

Agricultural School, Taliparamba—
Question *re* — 404–405

Agricultural Policy of Government—
Budget motion *re* — 649–672

Agriculture—Transferred—
See Demand for Grant.

Aided School Managers—
Question *re* — in Educational Councils.

Aiyasami—
Question *re* Beating of picketer — by the Police at Madura 848–849

Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.—
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms — 226–227
Industrial policy of the Government 974–976
Medical policy of Government 595–596
See Questions and Answers.

All-India Swadeshi Exhibition—
See Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras.

Alluri Satyanarayana Raju, etc.—
See Papers laid on the table.

Ambasamudram—
Question *re* injuries caused to Mr. Krishna Ayyar by the police at — .. 890–891

Ambulance workers—
Question *re* beating of — at Tinnevelly 942
Question *re* police action against — in Tinnevelly 897

Arasu, Mr. V. T.—
Bills—
Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras 795
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras 799–801, 812–815
Budget motion *re*—
Agricultural policy of Government 665–668
Education policy of Government 510–517
Excise policy of the Government 124–125
Industrial policy of the Government 968–970
Medical policy of the Government 582–589
Ministers' policy 349–351, 357
Registration Department, communal representation in the 170–171
Demand for supplementary grant *re*—
Irrigation — Cauvery-Mettur Project 769–770
See Questions and Answers.

Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.—
Budget motion *re*—
Cinchona plantations — 728–729
Commissioner of Labour 991–992
Co-operative Department 720–721
Public Health Department 632

Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.—
Budget motion *re*—
Cauvery-Mettur Project 211–213
Excise policy of the Government 59–62
Budget motion—
Fisheries policy of the Government 979–982
Forest policy of the Government 138–143
Irrigation policy of the Government 175–178, 187–190
Land Revenue policy of the Government 34–41
Medical policy of Government 577–582, 603
Police policy in *re* Civil Disobedience Movement 432–435, 449
Public Health Department 633–635
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, etc. 266–270, 320

PAGES

A—cont.

Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.—*cont.*
Motion *re*—
Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway .. 765, 766
Retrenchment Committee Report, allotment of a day for discussing the .. 764
See Questions and Answers.

Arrests—
Question *re* Number of — in Madras during the sojourn of the Indian Franchise Committee 849–850

Arthamur—
Question *re* Buy Indian Leaguers in — 960–961

Arumuga Nainar Nadar, Mr.—
Question *re* beating of — by the Police 899

Assault—
Question *re* — on khaddar-clad men by an European Sergeant in Bezwada. 331–332

Assessment—
Question *re* — in Nadugudi, etc., villages in Nannilam taluk 185–186

Assistant Director of Marine—
See 'Lady Goschen'.

Assistant Excise Commissioner—
Question *re* appointment of a Muslim as — 182

Ayurvedic, etc., systems, dispensaries for—
See Indian Systems of Medicine 609–610

Ayyakannu Thevar—
Question *re* beating of — at Tinnevelly 945–946

B

Bapayya and Venkataramayya—
Question *re* ill-treatment of — by the police 933

Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, Mr.—
Bills—
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras 805–806, 808–809
Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, Bill to amend the 819, 820
Budget motion *re*—
Court-fees, prevention of leakage in 135–136
Court-fees, revision of 130–131, 135
European schools 564–566, 573
Excise policy of the Government 125–126
Forest policy of the Government 145–147
Hydro-Electric Schemes 483–485
Industrial Schools 735–739
Legislative Council, allowances of members of the 258
Legislative Council Library 261–262, 265
Mettur Project, land acquisition officers for 218–219
Muslim representation in the Judiciary 385
Political prisoners, classification and treatment of 416–420
Port Trust, Madras, representation of interests on the 459–460
Port Trust Workshops and Offices, Muslim representation in the .. 458–459
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous 283–285
Veterinary Department 696–699
See Questions and Answers.

Basu Dev, Mr. C.—
Budget motion *re*
Port Trust, Madras, representation of interests on the 461

Beating—
See Gopalakrishnayya of Ellakuru.
See Narasayya of Pamarra.

PAGES

B—*cont.*

Beating by the Police—
See Papers laid on the table.

Beating of Ambulance workers—
Question *re* — at *Tinnevelly* .. 934–935

Beating of Messrs. Subba Rao and Ramaswami—
Question *re* Police Commissioner's enquiry in *re* — .. 915–917, 918

Beating of non-picketers—
Question *re* — at Pilicode .. 932

Beating of volunteers—
Question *re* — in Kanhangad .. 618–619

Beating of volunteers in the police lock-up—
Question *re* — in the police lock-up at Masulipatam .. 616–618

Bellary Central Jail—
Question *re* Beating of prisoners in the — .. 856
Question *re* Lathi charge on political prisoners in the — .. 854–855

Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.—
Budget motion *re*—
Cinchona plantations .. 733
Muslim education, encouragement of .. 509–510
Muslim representation in the Judiciary .. 376–379
Veterinary Department .. 703–704

Bezwada Municipality—
Question *re* irregularities in the — .. 950–951

Bills—
Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras—
Passed into law .. 789–795
Third reading continued, amendments made .. 778–789

Cotton Control Bill, the Madras—
Bill as amended by the Select Committee considered .. 795–812
Passed into law .. 812–815

Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, Bill further to amend the Madras—
Introduced and taken into consideration .. 815–821
Passed into law .. 821–823

Boycott of British Goods—
Question *re* Police excesses for preaching — .. 842

Buckingham canal—
Question *re* improvements to — .. 871–87

Budget motion *re*—
Administration of Justice — .. 359–361, 363–38
Agricultural policy of Government .. 649–67
Cinchona plantations .. 728–73
Constitutional Reforms .. 220–24
Co-operative Department .. 707–72
Court-fees, leakage of — .. 135–13
Court-fees, revision of — .. 130–13
Education policy of Government .. 495–529, 543–56
European Schools .. 560–57
Excise policy of the Government .. 59–7
Fisheries policy of the Government .. 979–98
Forest policy of the Government .. 138–16
Industrial policy of the Government .. 735–742, 961–97
Irrigation policy of the Government .. 175–178, 187–21
Labour Commissioner .. 989–99
Land Revenue policy of the Government .. 34–5
Legislative Council, allowances of members of the — .. 256–25
Legislative Council Library .. 259–26
Legislative Council Office .. 255–25
Medical policy of Government .. 577–60
Mettur Project .. 211–21
Ministers' policy .. 332–3

PAGES

B—*cont.*

Budget motion *re*—*cont.*
Police policy in *re* Civil Disobedience Movement 432–458
Public Health Department 624–649
Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme 463–466, 483–495
Registration Department, communal representation in the — 165–175
Secretariat and Headquarters establishments, etc. 266–321
Veterinary Department 673–674, 690–707

Bus Inspectors—
Question *re* appointment of — 394–396

" Buy Indian League "—
Adjournment motion *re*—Dispersal of the procession of the — at Narsapur. 408–410
Question *re* — 609
Question *re* — , Narsapur 542–543

Buy Indian Leaguers—
Question *re* — in Arthamur 960–961

C

' C ' Class prisoners—
Question *re* — Annapurniah and Venkataratnam 681–683

Calicut—
Question *re* lathi charge on the beach at — 876

Campbell, the hon. Sir Archibald—
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms 245–247
Irrigation policy of the Government 207–211
Land Revenue policy of the Government 56–58
Mettur Project 217–219
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments—District Administration and Miscellaneous 317–320

Demand for grant *re*—
Irrigation — Cauvery-Mettur Project — Reserved 211
Irrigation (ex-Cauvery-Mettur Project) — Reserved 175
Land Revenue — Reserved 34

Demand for supplementary grant *re* —
Irrigation — Cauvery-Mettur Project 766, 770–773, 774
Secretariat and Headquarters establishments 775

Cannanore Jail—
Question *re* Diet of Mr. E. R. Nagarajan in — 858

Cauvery bridge, Mettur—
Question *re* restrictions on the use of — 859

Cauvery-Mettur Project—
Question *re* officers employed in the — 858–859
See Mettur Project.

Central Co-operative Banks—
Question *re* loans granted to — 951–952

Chandran, picketer—
Question *re* beating of — in Tinnevelly town 943

Child Education Section—
Question *re* — in Lady Willingdon Training College 27–31

Chingleput District Board—
Question *re* affairs in the — 683–685
See Adi-Dravidas.

Chinnappa Kaimal—
Question *re* arrest and beating of — by the Tinnevelly police 946

Chinchona plantations—
Budget motion *re* — 728–735

PAGES

C—*cont.*

Cinchona — Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Civil Disobedience Movement—
Budget motion *re*—Police policy in regard to — 432–458
Question *re* convictions in *re* — and classifications of prisoners 922
,, Instructions to officers in *re* — 922–923
,, *police expenditure in South Kanara in re* — 937
,, suppression of — 928–929

Civil Disobedience Prisoners—
Question *re* classification of — 750

Civil suits and appeals—
Question *re* decline in — 680

Civil Veterinary Services — Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Civil Works—Establishment and Tools and Plant—Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Civil Works—Grants-in-aid—Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Civil Works—Works—Reserved and Transferred—
See Demand for Grant.

Classification of prisoners—
Question *re* Principles underlying the — 853

Clerical staff—
Question re — in headquarters hospitals and **District Medical Offices** .. 911

Clothing—
See Political Prisoners.

Coconuts—
Question *re* price of — in Malabar 863

Collectors—
Question *re* communications addressed to — by name 864

Commissioner of Labour—
See Labour Commissioner.

Commissioner of Police, Madras—
Question *re* alleged wrongful confinement of certain persons by the — .. 890

Communal Representation—
Discussion *re* — in the Registration Department 165–175

Compulsory Education—
Question *re* — in Saidapet taluk 606–608

Conference—
See Ryotwari Landholders' Conference.

Congress sheds at Palacole—
See Papers laid on the table.

Congress Volunteers in Wenlock Hospital—
See Accident register.

Constitutional Reforms—
Budget motion *re* introduction of further — 220–247
Discussion *re* allotment of a day for the discussion of — 361–363

Convictions for political offences—
Question *re* — and classifications of prisoners 922

Coondapoor—
See Lathi charge.

Co-operative Department—
Budget motion *re* — 707–728

Co-operative Societies—Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras —
See Bills.

PAGES

C—*cont.*

Cooum—
Question *re* Improvements to — .. 871–873

Copyists—
Question *re* — in the Judicial Department 901

Cotton Control Bill, the Madras —
See Bills.

Court-fees—
Question *re* measures to prevent the Leakage of— 851–852

D

Davis, Mr. J. A.—
Budget motion *re*—
Public Health Department 632–633

Depressed classes—
Question *re* age limit for entry into Government service for— 184–185
See Scholarships.

Demand for grant *re*—
Administration of Justice — Reserved 359–386
Agency Tracts — Reserved 997
Agent for Government Consignments 458–462
Agriculture — Transferred 649–672
Cinchona — Reserved 728–735
Civil Veterinary Services — Transferred 672–674, 690–707
Civil Works — Establishment and Tools and Plant — Transferred 997
Civil Works — Grants-in-aid — Transferred 997
Civil Works — Works — Reserved and Transferred 996
Co-operative Societies — Transferred 707–728
Education — Reserved (European) 560–577
Education — Transferred 495–529, 543–560
Electricity—Reserved 462–466, 483–495
Excise — Transferred 59–75, 121–129
Expenditure in England other than on Stores — Reserved and Transferred 997
Famine Relief — Reserved 997
Fisheries — Transferred 979–989
Forest — Reserved 138–165
Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils — Reserved 220–247
Industries — Transferred 735–742, 961–979
Irrigation — Cauvery-Mettur Project — Reserved 211–219
Irrigation (ex-Cauvery-Mettur Project) — Reserved 175–178, 186–211
Jails — Reserved 386–392, 410–432
Land Revenue — Reserved 34–59
Legislative Bodies — Reserved 255–266
Loans and Advances — Reserved 997
Medical — Transferred 577–603
Ministers, Civil Secretariat, etc. — Transferred 332–359
Miscellaneous Departments — Reserved 989–995
Miscellaneous — Reserved and Transferred 997
Miscellaneous Departments — Transferred 996
Pensions — Reserved 997
Police — Reserved 432–458
Public Health — Transferred 624–649
Refunds of Revenue — Reserved and Transferred 997
Registration—Transferred 165–175
Secretariat and Headquarters establishments, etc. — Reserved 266–321
Stamps — Reserved 130–138
Stationery and Printing — Reserved and Transferred 997

Demand for supplementary grant for 1931–32 *re* —
Forest — Reserved — Grant IV 766
Irrigation — Cauvery-Mettur Project — Reserved — Grant VII 766–775
Refunds of Revenue — Reserved and Transferred — Grant XXXVIII 775–778
Secretariat and Headquarters establishments, etc. — Reserved — Grant X 775

PAGES

D—*cont.*

Devadasan, Mr. M.—
Bills —
Cotton Control Bill, Madras 803–804
Budget motion *re*—
Administration of Justice 359–361, 363–365
Cinchona plantations 733
Commissioner of Labour 992–994
European Schools 566–567
Judicial and Executive functions, Separation of — 313
Land Revenue Policy of the Government 52–54
See Questions and Answers.

Dhanabagyam—
Question *re* beating of — and Venkataramayya at Tinnevelly 942

Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.—
See Questions and Answers.

Dindigul Advocate prisoner—
Question *re* — 751–752

Diet to political prisoners—
Question *re* — 753–755

District Munsif—
Question *re* Irregularity committed by the — of Tindivanam 851

Dodwell, I.C.S., Mr.—
Question *re* Apology by — Subdivisional Magistrate of Tellicherry 836–837
,, conduct of — 109–113
,, irregularities on the part of — 919–921
See Thali incident 482–483

Durga Bai (prisoner)—
Question *re* — 611
Question *re* compulsion in the matter of wearing apparel of — 857–858

E

Education grants—
Question *re* reduction of — to local bodies 953–954

Education Policy—
Budget motion *re* — of Government 495–529

Education — Reserved (European)—
See Demand for Grant.

Education — Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Edyaru Chathur Co-operative Society—
Question *re* liquidation of — 746

Egmore Girls' School—
Question *re* term of office of Superintendent of the— 873–874

Electricty—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Ellappa Chettiyar, Rao Sahib S.—
Budget motion *re* Mettur Project 216–217

Elundrakondan Periyakulam—
Question *re* irrigation under — 476

European firms—
See State aid to —

Erneni Subrahmanyam's Asramam—
Question *re* police interference with the ladies of the — 939

Estates Land Bill, the Madras—
Question *re* — 903–905
See Madras Estates Land Bill.

European Schools—
Budget motion *re* — 560–577

PAGES

E—cont.

Excise—
Budget motion *re* — 59–75, 121–129

Excise—Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Expenditure in England—Reserved and Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

F

Famine Relief—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Film censors—
Question *re* Board of — in Madras 20–21

Finance Committee for 1932–33—
Election of members to the — 765, 995–996

Fish-curing yards—
Question *re* — closed and re-opened 254

Fish-oil and Fish guano—
Question *re* — in South Kanara and Malabar 32

Fisheries Training Institute—
Question *re* abolition of — 31–32

Fisheries—Transferred—
See Budget motion.
See Demand for grant.

Fisheries—
Question *re* — in West Coast 608–609
,, catching of fish from — near Negapatam by Japanese fishermen. 875

Flag hoisting—
See Kuppam.

Flood damage—
Question *re* — in South Arcot 16

Forceful dispersal of picketers—
Question *re* instructions for — 611–616

Forest policy of the Government—
Budget motion re — 138–165

Forest—Reserved—
Demand for supplementary grant *re* — 766
See Demand for grant.

Franchise Committee, the Madras—
See Papers laid on the table.

Franchise Committee Questionnaire, answers to —
See Papers laid on the table.

Fruits—
Question *re* — to political prisoners 753–755

G

Gandhi Ashramam, Komaravole—
Question *re* Police excesses on ladies of — 842–844

Gandhi cap(s)—
Question *re* Beating of persons at Tiruppur for not removing — 844–845
,, lathi charge on people wearing — or Khaddar 937
,, instructions to Police not to molest wearers of — and Khaddar. 883

Gandhi cap wearers—
Question *re* — threatened by the police at Gudivada 932

Ghantasala—
Question *re* treatment by the police of the picketers at — 884–885

Glass bangles—
See Lady convicts.

PAGES

G—*cont.*

Gopalakrishnayya of Ellakuru —
Question re beating of — by the police 933

Gopalaswami Ayyar, Dr. (C class prisoner)—
Question *re* — 902–903

Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.—

Budget motion *re*—
European Schools 569–570
Excise policy of the Government 70–72
Forest policy of the Government 147–149
Registration Department, communal representation in the — .. 171

Government Commercial Institutions—
Question *re* — in the Presidency 954–955

G.D.A. Course—
Question *re* — 541–542

Government Institutes of Commerce—
Question *re* — 912
,, admission into — 542

Government Muhammadan College—
Question *re* Provision of tiffin room in the — 874–875

Government offices —
Question *re* reduction of officials and clerks in the — 866–867

Government Press—
Question re dismissal of Paramasivam of the — 755–756
,, machinery (unused) at the — 879

Government Press Labour Union—
Question *re* memorial from the — 877–879
,, official recognition to the — 959

Government Secondary Girls' School, Salem—
Question *re* — 953

Government Service—
See Nambudri Brahmans.

Governor, His Excellency the—
Prorogation Speech (session ending March 1932) 997–1000

Grain Merchants Association—
Representation of — on the Port Trust 458–460

Gudivada—
Question *re* police action on picketers at — 883
See Gandhi cap wearers.
See Lathi charge.
See Police excesses.
See Police terrorism

Gudivada Police—
See Police excesses.

H

Headquarter hospitals—
See Clerical staff.

Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Hereditary rights—
See Village officers.

High Court Judges—
Budget motion *re* communal representation among — 376–385

Honorary Magistrates—
Question *re* — in Madras 17–19

Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.—
Oath of office 252

PAGES

H—*cont.*

House Surgeons and House Physicians—
Question *re* appointment and selection of — 27

Hutton, Mr. A. W.—
Budget motion *re* Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme 463–465, 494

Hydro-Electric Schemes—
See Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme.

I

Ill-treatment of picketers—
Question *re* — in Kasaragod 538

Indian Franchise Committee—
Question *re* Arrests in Madras during the sojourn of the — 849–850
See Papers laid on the table.

Indian systems of medicine—
Question *re* dispensaries for — 609–610

Indigenous industries—
Question *re* Application of Ordinances against the growth of — 839

Indrayya, Mr. C.—
See Questions and Answers.

Industrial Schools—
Budget motion *re* — 735–739

Industries—Transferred—
See Demand for grant.
See Budget motion.

Infantry Battalions—
Question *re* raising of — of Madrasees 870

Inspector-General of Police—
Question *re* instructions of the — for use of force against picketers 611–616

Irrigation canals—
Question *re* Closure of — in Tinnevelly district 861

Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved—
Demand for supplementary grant *re* — 766–775
See Demand for grant.

Irrigation (ex Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Irrigation policy of the Government—
Budget motion *re* — 175–178, 187–121

J

Jails—
Budget motion *re* reformation of — 386–392, 410–432

Jails—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

James, Mr. F. E.—
Bill—
Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, Bill to amend the — 822–823
Budget motion *re*—
Cinchona plantations 732–733
Constitutional Reforms 224–226, 235
European Schools 562–565, 575
Legislative Council Library 262–263
See Questions and Answers.

Japanese Fishermen—
Question *re* catching of fish from fishery near Negapatam by — 875

Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.—
See Questions and Answers.

Jedarpalayam Channel—
Question *re* Failure of water in the — .. .. [illegible]

PAGES

K

Kalladakurichi—
Question *re* Police excesses in — .. 891–897

Kampaya Kone (picketer—Tinnevelly)—
Question *re* injuries caused to — .. 900

Kanakamma of Tanuku—
See Papers laid on the table.

Karmegham Pillai—
Question *re* beating of — and Ramanathan at Tinnevelly .. 942

Kausalya Devi, Srimathi—
Question *re* Drenching of — .. 841–842

Kesava *Ramamurti Nayudu*, Mr.—
Budget motion *re* Land Revenue policy of the Government .. 48–49

Khaddar Vastralaya at Tinnevelly—
Question *re* forfeiture of funds of the — .. 927–928

Khaddar Weaving Association, Rajahmundry—
See Police raid.

Khadi Depot, Bezwada—
Question *re* Raid by the Police on the — .. 845

Khalifullah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.—

Budget motion re—
Agricultural policy of Government .. 669–670
Education policy of Government .. 527–529
European Schools .. 575–576
Muslim representation in the Judiciary .. 380–381

Kist(s)—
Question *re* extension of time for payment of — .. 861–862
,, *rigorous measures for the collection of* — .. 862

Kist revision—
See Ryotwari Landholders' Conference.

Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.—
See Questions and Answers.

Koti Reddi, Mr. K.—
Bills—
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras .. 797
Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, Bill to amend the — .. 816–817, 818, 819
Budget motion *re*—
Cinchona plantations .. 731–732
Public Health Department .. 639–642
Pykara Scheme .. 486–488
Veterinary Department .. 690–694
Demand for supplementary grant *re* —
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project .. 770

Krishna Annavi, Mr.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — .. 895

Krishna Ayyangar, Mr. A.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — .. 894–895

Krishna Ayyar, Mr.—
Question *re* injuries caused to — by the Ambasamudram Police .. 890–891

Krishna Ayyar, Mr. N. C.—
Question *re* assault on — .. 896

Krishna Ayyar, Mr. S.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — .. 894

Krishna Ayyar, S. R.—
Question *re* beating of — at Tinnevelly .. 943

Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.—
Budget motion *re* Education policy of the Government .. 547–548

PAGES

K—*cont.*

Krishnan, Mr. T. S.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — 896

Krishnan Nayar, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.—
Budget motion *re* —
Administration of Justice 370–373, 375–376, 384–385
Cinchona plantations 733–735
Court fees, prevention of leakage in 137–138
Court fees, revision of 133–135
Forest policy of the Government 161–165
Jails, administration of 425–432
Port Trust, Madras, representation of interests on the 461–462
Port Trust Workshops and offices, Muslim representation in the 458–459
Pykara Scheme 489–495

Demand for grant *re* —
Administration of Justice—Reserved 359
Agent for Government Consignments—Reserved 458
Cinchona—Reserved 728
Electricty—Reserved 462
Forest—Reserved 138
Jails—Reserved 386
Stamps—Reserved 130

Demand for supplementary grant *re* —
Forest — Reserved 766

Kumararaja of Venkatagiri—
Budget motion *re* Legislative Council Office 255–256

Kumaraswami Reddiyar, the hon. Diwan Bahadur S.—
Budget motion *re* —
Education policy of the Ministry 556–560
Excise policy of the Government 126–129
Fisheries policy of the Government 987–989
Industrial policy of the Government 976–979

Demand for grant *re* —
Education—Transferred 495
Excise—Transferred 59
Fisheries—Transferred 979
Industries—Transferred 735

Kurumaddalai—
See Police excesses.

Kuppam—
Question *re* flag hoisting at — and prosecutions 482

L

Labour Commissioner—
Budget motion *re* — 989–995

Labour Schools—
See Papers laid on the Table.

Labour Union—
See Government Press Labour Union.

Lady convicts—
Question *re* removal of kunkumum and bangles 396–400

" Lady Gosehen "—
Question *re* — and abolition of the post of Assistant Director of Marine .. 913
" trawler 406–8

Lady Willingdon Medical School—
Question *re* complaints against Superintendent of — 910–11
" detention of pupils in — 909
" opening of the hostel attached to the — 950
" Selection examination in — 959–960
" treatment of Hindu pupils in — 909–10

PAGES

L—*cont.*

Lady Willingdon Training College—
See Child education section.

Lakshmana Mudaliyar, Mr. V. A.—
Question re lathi charge on — 898–899

Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.—
Oath of office 252

Lakshmi Narasimham, Mr. M.—
Question *re* beating of — by the Police 470

Land Revenue policy of the Government—
Budget motion *re* — 34–59

Land Revenue—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Lathis —
Question re —, number in use in Police department 108–9
See Police subordinates.

Lathi charge—
Question *re* — at Calicut Beach 876
,, at Coondapoor 935–6, 936–7
,, *highhanded action of the Police at Gudivada* 932
,, Police excesses 104–6
,, in Rajapalayam 537–8
,, on a Udipi procession 759
,, injuries caused by — on Congress volunteers 881
,, *severe beating and kicking of volunteers in Mangalore* .. 329–331
,, on peaceful picketers, Secretary of State's reply 102–4
,, on Satyanarayanamurti, etc. 107–8
,, on volunteer Srinivasa Rao 106–7
See " Bellary Central Jail."

Lathi charge — Directions to the police.
See Unlawful assemblies.

Lathis and canes—
Question *re* outlay on — 538–9

Law Department—
Question *re* Heads of departments under the — 852–853

Legislative Bodies—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Legislative Council—
Budget motion *re* allowances of Members 256–259
Discussion *re* early rising of the — on account of Lunar Eclipse 689
Prorogued (session ending March 1932) 1000

Legislative Council Library—
Budget motion *re* — 259–266

Legislative Council Office—
Budget motion *re* constituting the — into a separate office 255–256

L.M.P. Course—
Question *re* — in Lady Willingdon Medical School 909

Liquor—
Question *re* adulteration of — in South Kanara 120

Loans and Advances—Reserved—
See Demand for grant 997

Looting—
Question *re* — of sweetmeat shops at Pamarra 934

Local bodies—
See Education grants.

Luker, Mr. F. G.—
Budget motion *re* Minister's policy in regard to transport 336–340

Lunar Eclipse—
Discussion *re* —
Early rising of the Legislative Council on account of — 689

PAGES

M

Madusoodhanan Thangal, Mr.—
See Questions and Answers.

Madaswami Asari—
Question *re* arrest and beating of — by the Tinnevelly Police 946

Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee—
Election of members to — 765–766, 99

Madrasa-i-Azam—
Question *re* provision of tiffin room in the — 874–875

Madura Municipality—
Question *re* reconstitution of — 472

Mahajana Sabha—
Question *re* Madras — 837–838

Mahboob Ali Baig, Mr.—
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms 222–224
Budget discussions *re* —
Education policy of Government 553–555
European Schools 571–572
Land Revenue policy of the Government 55–56
See Questions and Answers.

Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—
Budget motion *re*—
Agricultural policy of Government 659–660
Education policy of Government 500–502
Excise policy of the Government 67–68
Muslim representation in the Judiciary 381–382
Public Health Department 627–630
See Questions and Answers.

Mangalore—
Question *re* beating of picketers at — 886–888

Mangalore Police Inspector—
Question *re* abuses by — 759–760

Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.—
Budget motion *re* —
European schools 561–562
Forest policy of the Government 157–159
Veterinary department 702–703
See Questions and Answers.

Medical Council—
Question *re* grant to — 762

Medical inspection—
Question *re* — 12–14

Medical policy of Government—
Budget motion *re* — 577–603

Medical Practitioners—
Question *re* delay in registration of — 763

Medical—Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Meenakshi Sundareswarar Devasthanam Committee—
Question *re* — 474

Mettur Dam—
Question *re* water-supply to Salem from — 871

Mettur Project—
Budget motion *re* — 211–219

Mettur Works—
Question *re* execution of — 859

Ministers—
Budget motion *re* policy of — 332–369

PAGES

M—*cont.*

Ministers, Civil Secretariat, etc.—*Transferred*—
See Demand for grant.

Minor irrigation works—
Question *re* — in Sriperumbudur *taluk* .. 253

Miscellaneous Department—*Reserved*—
See Demand for grant.

Miscellaneous—Reserved and Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Miscellaneous Departments—*Transferred*—
See Demand for grant.

Montford School, Yercaud—
Question *re* — .. 914–5

Mopad, etc., tanks—
Question *re* supply channel of the — .. 876–877

Moses, Mr. P. C.—
Budget motion *re* —
Excise policy of the Government .. 72–73
Forest policy of the Government .. 150–151
Land Revenue policy of the Government .. 49–51

Motor cars—
Question re—*and accidents* .. 21–22, 76

Motor Transport—
Budget motion *re* Minister's policy *re* — .. 336–340

Motor Vehicles—
Question *re* — for hire in *Salem district* .. 900–1
„ registration of — and grant of driving licences .. 476–7

Motor Vehicles Taxation—
Question *re* exemptions under — .. 540–1

Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, *Bill further to amend the Madras*—
See Bills.

Mufassal Courts—
Question *re* inspection of — .. 749–750

Muniswami Nayudu, the hon. *Diwan Bahadur B.*—
Bills—
Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, Bill to amend the — .. 815, 817–818, 821
Budget motion *re* —
Constitutional Reforms .. 238–244
Medical policy of Government .. 598–602
Ministers' policy .. 354–359
Police policy in *re* Civil Disobedience Movement .. 454–456
Public Health Department .. 643–649
Constitutional Reforms, discussion re allotment of a day for the discussion of — .. 362–363
Demand for grant *re* —
Medical — Transferred .. 577
Ministers, Civil Secretariats, etc.—Transferred .. 332
Public Health — Transferred .. 624
Motion re — Advisory *Committee of the* **Madras and Southern Mahratta** Railway .. 766

Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.—
Budget motion re —
Agricultural Policy of Government .. 660–661
Cinchona plantations .. 729–731
Constitutional Reforms .. 237–238
Co-operative Department .. 722–724
Excise policy of the Government .. 73–74
Forest policy of the Government .. 159–161
Public Health Department .. 638–639
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous .. 303–305
See Questions and Answers.

PAGES

M—*cont.*

Murder cases—
  Question *re* number of — in Salem district 851

Murugesa Mudaliyar, Mr.—
  Question *re* — of the School of Indian medicine 685–687

Muslim representation—
  Question *re* — in Excise Commissioner's office 182

Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.—
  Budget motion *re* —
    Constitutional Reforms 230–231
    European Schools 574
  Motion *re* early rising of the House on account of lunar eclipse 689

Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.—
  Budget motion *re* Education policy of Government 555–556

Muthuswami Pillai, Mr.—
  Question *re* lathi charge on — 899

N

Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.—
  Budget motion *re* —
    Mettur Project 213–214
    Pykara Scheme 488–489
    Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and
      Miscellaneous 305–307
    Veterinary department 701–702
  Demand for supplementary grant *re* —
    Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project 767–768, 774–775
  See Questions and Answers.

Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.—
  Budget motion *re*—
    Irrigation policy of the Government 203–205
    Land Revenue Policy of the Government 46–48
    Mettur Project 214–216
  See Questions and Answers.

Nagalingam Pillai, Mr.—
  Question *re* beating of — while in police custody 899

Nagam, Mr. K. V.—
  Question *re* beating of — while in police custody 899

Nagarajan, Mr. E. R.—
  Question *re* diet of — in Cannanore Jail 858

Nagarajan (Mr. E. R., etc., Krishnagiri)—
  Question *re* conviction of — 903

Nambudri Brahmans—
  Question *re* — in Government service 17

Nandivada—
  See Police excesses.

Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.—
  Demand for supplementary grant *re* —
    Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project 768–769
  See Questions and Answers.

Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.—
  Bills—
    Cotton Control Bill, the Madras 798–799
  Budget motion *re* — Veterinary department 699–701

Natasayya (Thota)—
  Question *re* beating of — of Pamarra 933

PAGES

N—cont.

Narayana Ayyar, K.—
Question *re* beating of — at Kallidaikurichi 944–945
,, lathi charge on — 894

Narayana Ayyar, T. C.—
Question *re* beating of — at Tinnevelly 945
,, lathi charge on — 894

Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.—
Budget motion *re* — *Ministers' policy* 340–341

Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur, T. M.—
Budget motion *re* —
Forest policy of the Government 149–150
Land Revenue policy of the Government 44–46
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous 279–281
See Questions and Answers.

Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.—
Budget motion *re* —
Administration of Justice 368–370
Constitutional Reforms 244–245
Irrigation policy of the Government 202–203
Jails, reformation of — 414–416
Medical policy of Government 589–595
Public Health Department 635–638
Pykara Scheme 488

National leaders—
See Photos of—

Nellore Hospital Advisory Committee—
Question *re* — 763

O

Oath of office—
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M. 252
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G. 252

Ordinances—
Question *re* convictions under the — 536–537
,, misuse of — against the growth of indigenous industries .. 839
,, withdrawal of — 885

Oriya as court language—
See Vizagapatam Agency.

P

Paddy—
Question *re* price of — in Malabar 863

Padmanabha Rao, Mr. P.—
Question *re* Police excesses, *complaint* by — 847–848

Palaniappa Pillai, Mr. S.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — 898

Palat, Mr. R. M.—
Budget motion *re* Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous 292–295
See Questions and Answers.

Palayappa Pillai—
Question *re* beat of — by the police 944

Pamarra—
Question *re looting of sweetmeat shops at* — 934

Pamaniar—
Question *re* repairs to the — in Tanjore district 859–860

PAGES

P—cont.

Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.—
Budget motion *re* —
Ministers' policy— 345–349
Muslim representation on the High Court Bench 382–384
Police policy in *re* to Civil Disobedience Movement 445–450
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, etc. 307–310
See Questions and Answers.

Papanasam Project—
Budget motion *re* — 494–495

Papers laid on the Table—
Alluri Satyanarayana Raju, etc., U.O. No. 7421-1, Public (General), dated 19th March 1932, *re* Question No. 922-B, dated 27th February 1932, about the alleged beating of — by the Police 823, 829
Congress sheds at Palacole, U.O. Note, No. 3196-2, Public (General), dated 21st March 1932, *re* Question No. 839 about Police setting fire to the —. 823, 833
Franchise Committee Questionnaire—Views of the Government of Madras.. 78–90
Indian Franchise Committee, Letter No. 449-P, Public (Franchise), dated 20th March 1932, to the Secretary of the —, forwarding replies of the Madras Provincial Franchise Committee to the further questionnaire of the — and the views of the Government of Madras 1000, 1033–1046
Kanakamma of Tanuku, U.O. Note No. 3198-2, Public (General), dated 19th March 1932, *re* Question No. 836, dated 24th February 1932, about the alleged arrest of — 823, 830
Kovvali Ramachandra Rao of Tanuku, U.O. Note No. 3199-2, dated the 19th March 1932, *re* Question No. 834 about lathi charge on — .. 823, 830–831
Labour Schools closed since July 1931 468
Madras Franchise Committee, replies of the, to the further questions of the Indian Franchise Committee 1000, 1026–1033
Madras Retrenchment Committee, G.O. No. 143, Finance, dated 18th March 1932, placing the report of the — 1000, 1025
Police action, U.O. Note No. 4199-2, Public (General), dated 20th March 1932, *re* Question No. 1006, dated 12th March 1932, about 823, 833
Police excesses in Mangalore and Cannanore, U.O. Note No. 8732-2, dated 19th March 1932, *re* Question No. 1009 about — 823, 831–833
Provincial Franchise Committee's report 90–99
Ramachandra Rao (Mr. B.) and Mr. Repaka Appanna, U.O. Note No. 3197-2, Public (General), dated 19th March 1932, *re* Question No. 837, dated 24th February 1932, about the alleged beating of—by the Police. 823, 829–830

Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.—
Budget motion *re* —
Education policy of Government 543–546
Excise policy of the Government 63–64
See Questions and Answers.

Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.—
Budget motion *re* Excise policy of the Government 74–75
See Questions and Answers.

Paton, Dr.—
Question *re* beating and arrest of — 879–881
,, prosecution of — 929

Paton's case—
Question *re* withdrawal of Dr.— 756–758

Patro, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.—
Budget motion *re* —
Agricultural policy of Government 668–669
Constitutional Reforms 240
Forest policy of the Government 154–155
Irrigation policy of the Government 191–193
Ministers' policy 352–354
Police policy in *re* the Civil Disobedience Movement 439–442
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous 281–283
Demand for supplementary grant *re* —
Refunds of Revenue 776–777
Retrenchment Committee Report, allotment of a day for the discussion of the — 764

PAGES

P—*cont.*

Pattukkottai Mirasidars' Association—
Question *re* — and water cess 24-26

Pensions — *Reserved*—
See Demand for grant.

Photos of National leaders—
Question *re* seizure of — 534-536

Pichai Pillai—
See Saravana Pillai.

Picketers—
Question re assault on — in Tinnevelly town 943
,, beating of — at Mangalore 845-846, 886-888
,, beating of — at Tinnevelly 942
,, beating of — in South Kanara 888-889
,, beating of picketer Aiyaswami at Madura 848-849
,, injuries to — lying in Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore 907-908
,, investigation into the beating of isolated 881-882
,, Police excesses on — in Mangalore 847
,, treatment by the police of the — at Ghantasala.. 884-885
,, use of force by Police against — etc. 839-840
See Ill-treatment of —

Pilicode—
See Beating of non-picketers.

Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.—
Budget motion *re*—
Court-fees, prevention of leakage in 136-137
Court-fees, reduction of 132-133
Education policy of Government 548-551
European schools 567-569
Mappilla prisoners, release of 420-422
Muslim representation in the judiciary 376-377
Registration Department, communal representation in the 166-168

Supplementary question—
Alleged discourtesy in answering a 624
See Questions and Answers.

Police—
Question *re* disciplinary action against the — for use of excessive force .. 841
See "*Lathi charge.*"

Police assault—
Question *re* — on Akkayya of Pedamaddali on 16th January 1932 939
,, on Nagireddi and Pattabhiramayya of Pamarru on 15th January 1932 939

Police constable—
Question *re* entry of a — by name Raju into the ladies compartment at Rajahmundry 935

Police Department—
Budget motion re the policy of — in re Civil Disobedience movement .. 432-458

Police excesses—
Question *re* at Gudivada 620, 938-939
,, at Kallidaikurichi 891-897
,, in Kommanur 761
,, at Kurumaddalai 938
,, in Madura 760-761
,, at Nandivada.. 933
,, at Robertsonpeta 622-623, 762
,, in Malabar 930-931
,, in Rajahmundry on 24th January 1932 930
,, in Tinnevelly town 897-900
,, in Tinnevelly town on 9th January 1932 943-944
,, in Tinnevelly town and Kallidaikurichi 940
,, in South Kanara 931-932
,, on Civil resisters 108
,, on Nagi Reddi 762

PAGES

P—*cont.*

Police excesses—*cont.*
Question *re* action taken against — 929
,, complaint of—by Mr. P. Padmanabha Rao 847–848
,, memorial *re*—in Tinnevelly 941
See Gandhi Ashramam, Komoravole.
See Lathi charge.
See Picketers.
See Veeriah, Mr. P.

Police excesses in Mangalore and Cannanore—
See Papers laid on the Table.

Police Gazette—
Question *re* — dated 2nd August 1931, *re* lathi charge 477–480
,, addendum to the — *re* use of lathis 938

Police officers—
Question *re* maintenance charges of motor bykes by — 539–540

Police raid—
Question *re* — on Khaddar Weaving Association, Rajahmundry 481–482

Police—Reserved—
See Demand for grant.

Police subordinates—
Question *re* training to — in the use of lathis 480

Police terrorism—
Question *re* — in Gudivada 933

Political cases—
Question *re* withdrawal of—like Dr. Paton's 758–759

" Political prisoners "—
Budget motion *re* conviction of — 365–366, 373
Discussion *re* classification and treatment of — 413–420, 430–432
Question *re* bathing facilities for — 856–857
,, classification of — 752–753
,, clothing to C class — 858
,, lathi charge on — in the Bellary Central Jail 854–855
,, transfer of — 854

Port Trust—
Budget motion *re* representation of interests on the — 458–462

Port Trust workshops and offices—
Budget motion *re* Muslim representation in the — 458–459

Potato Farm—
Question *re* — at Nanjanad 116–118

Premayya, Mr. G. R.—

Budget motion *re* —
Excise policy of the Government 69–70
Land Revenue policy of the Government 51–52

President, the hon. the—

Adjournment motion *re*—
Motor vehicles plying for hire 33–34
Police action against Khaddar-clad persons at Rajahmundry 688–689

Announcement *re* —
Finance Committee and Public Accounts Committee, election of members to the — 765, 995–996
Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Advisory Committee, election of members to the — 766, 996
Questions received and answered, number of — 996

Bills—
Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras 778
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras— 806
Demands for grants,—guillotine applied 996–997

PAGES

P—*cont.*

President, the hon. the—*cont.*
Demand for Supplementary grant *re* —
Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project 767–774

Supplementary question —
Alleged discourtesy in answering a — 624

See Rulings.

Principals of Government Colleges—
Question *re* work done by — 954

Probationary Revenue Inspectors—
Question *re* — in the Andhra Province 683

Prorogation of the Council—
Session ending March 1932 1000

Public Accounts Committee for 1932–33—
Election of members to the — 765, 995

Public Health Department—
Budget motion *re* — 624–649

Public Health—Transferred—
See Demand for grant.

Pykara Hydro-Electric scheme—
Budget motion *re* — 463–466, 483–495

Q

Queen Mary's College—
Question *re* theft in — 911–912

Questions—
Announcement *re* number of — received and answered during the session 1931–32 996

Questions and Answers—
Abdul Hameed Khan, Mr.—
Question *re* "Buy Indian League," Narasapur 542, 543
" 'C' class prisoners—Annapurniah and Venkataratnam .. 681–683
" Durga Bai (prisoner) 611
" Egmore Girls' school, term of office of the Superintendent of the 873–874
" entry of a constable into the ladies compartment at Rajahmundry 935
" Police Commissioner's enquiry in *re* beating of Messrs. Subba Rao and Ramaswami 915–917
" police excesses in Madura 760–761
" police excesses in Rajahmundry on 24th January 1932 .. 930

Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.—
Question *re* Dodwell, I.C.S., Mr.—Conduct of 109–113

Arasu, Mr. V. T.—
Question *re* delay in Registration of Medical Practitioners 763
" grant to Medical Council 762
" thefts in Queen Mary's College 911–912
" Tuberculosis Hospital, Madras, in-patients in the 870

Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur, R. N.—
Question *re* ambulance workers, beating of, at Tinnevelly 942
" beating of volunteers in the police lock-up at Masulipatam .. 616–618
" beating of ambulance workers at Tinnevelly 934–935
" beating of Gopalakrishnayya of Ellakuru 933
" beating of (Thota) Narasayya of Pamarra 933–934
" "Buy Indian League" Narasapur 543
" Buy Indian Leaguers in Arthamur 960–961
" Chandran (picketer), beating of, in Tinnevelly town 943
" conviction of Ramakotayya for harbouring the ladies of Erneni Subrahmanyam's Ashramam 939
" Dhanabagyam and Venkataramayya, beating of, at Tinnevelly 942

PAGES

Questions and Answers—*cont.*
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.—*cont.*
Question *re* Gandhi cap wearers, at Gudivada—threatened by the police .. 932
" ill-treatment of Bapayya and Venkataramayya by the police. 933
" Karmegham Pillai and Ramanathan, beating of, at Tinnevelly 942
" Karuppayya Kone, picketer, Tinnevelly town, injuries caused to 900
" Krishna Ayyar (S. R.), beating of, at Tinnevelly 943
" lathi charge at Gudivada, highhanded action of the police .. 932
" looting of sweetmeat shops at Pamarru 934
" Padmanabha Rao, Mr. P., complaint of police excesses by —.. 847–848
" picketers at Ghantasala, treatment by the police of the — .. 884–885
" picketers at Tinnevelly, beating of — 942
" picketers in Tinnevelly town, assualt on — 943
" police excesses at Gudivada 938–939
" police excesses at Kalladakurichi 891–897
" police excesses at Nandivada 933
" police excesses in Kurumaddalai 938
" police excesses in Tinnevelly town — 897–900
" police excesses in Tinnevelly, memorial *re* 941
" police terrorism in Gudivada 933
" Probationary Revenue Inspectors in Andhra Province .. 683
" Subdivisional Magistrate, Gudivada—assault on Akkayya of Pedamaddali 939
" Subdivisional Magistrate, Gudivada — Police assault on Nagi Reddi and Pattabhiramayya 939
" Sudekannu, picketer (Tinnevelly), injuries caused to 900
" Supervisors in Public Works Department, reduction of .. 864–866
" Ushamani and Kausalya Devi, drenching of 841–842

Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, Mr.—
Question *re* bathing facilities for political prisoners 856–857
" Buy Indian League 609
" " Buy Indian League," Narasapur 543
" charges for user of water for industrial purposes 862–863
" child education section in Lady Willingdon Training College. 27–31
" classification of certain Advocate political prisoners 751
" classification of political prisoners 752–753
" classification of Sri Lakshmi Ammal as C class prisoner .. 753
" Commissioner of Police, Madras, alleged wrongful confinement of certain persons by the 890
" conviction of Mr. E. R. Nagarajan and others of Krishnagiri .. 903
" court-fees, measures to prevent leakage of 851–852
" deposition of witnesses, manner of recording 851
" diet to political prisoners 753
" Dindigul Advocate political prisoner 751–752
" dismissal of Paramasivam of Government Press 755–756
" Dhurga Bai, wearing apparel of 857–858
" Dr. Gopalaswami Ayyar, C class prisoner 902–903
" flood damage in South Arcot 16
" question of fruits to B class prisoners 753–755
" Government Commercial Institutions in the Presidency .. 954–955
" Government Institutes of Commerce 912
" Government Muhammadan College and Madrasa-i-Azam, provision of tiffin room in the 874–875
" G.D.A. course 541–542
" Government Press, machinery (unused) at the 879
" Government Press Labour Union, memorial from the .. 877–879
" Government Press Labour Union, official recognition of .. 959
" Government Institute of Commerce 542
" Indian Franchise Committee, arrests in Madras during the sojourn of 849–850
" Indian systems of medicine, dispensaries for 609–610
" inspection of mufassal courts 749–750
" irregularities of Mr. K. S. V. Rowji, District Munsif, Tindivanam 17
" Mahajana Sabha, Madras 837–838

PAGES

Q—*cont.*

Questions and Answers—*cont.*

Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, Mr.—*cont.*
Question *re* maintenance charges of motor bykes by police officers .. 539–540
,, Nagarajan, Mr. E. R., diet of 858
,, political prisoners, clothing to 858
,, Principals of Government Colleges, work done by 954
,, Registrar of the High Court 749
,, Registration Department—Establishment—Transfers .. 326
,, Retrenchment Committee and special pays 474–476
,, retrenchment of junior assistant surgeons 908
,, Saravana Pillai and Pichai Pillai of Udaiyarpalaiyam, arrest of 958
,, *seizure of articles at the Swadeshi Exhibition* 926–927
,, seizure of photos of national leaders 534–536
,, seizure of records, etc., in *re* Swadeshi Exhibition 925–926
,, suppression of civil disobedience movement 928–929
,, Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras, Licence to hold the 924–925
,, Tindivanam District Munsif, Conduct of the 185
,, Udaiyarpalaiyam, arrest of certain persons in 959
,, Udaiyarpalaiyam, memorial from the ryots of 947–948
,, village officers, punishment of 610–611
,, water charge for water pumped from private wells, levy of .. 948–949
,, Zamindar of Udaiyarpalaiyam, intimidation of the ryots by the 905–906

Devadasan, Mr. M.—
Question *re* irrigation under Elundrakondan Perakulam 476

Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.—
Question *re* Adi-Dravidas and Government Press 26–27

Indrayya, Mr. C.—
Question *re* lathi charge on Satyanarayanamurti and two others 107–108
,, Mulpuri Rangayya, Mr., alleged beating of, by the police .. 469
,, Vadapalli rioting case, cost incurred by Government 328–329

James, Mr. F. E.—
Question *re* Board of Film Censors in Madras 20–21
,, Motor Vehicles Taxation, exemptions under 540–541

Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.—
Question *re* Buckingham Canal and Cooum, improvements to 871–873
,, Honorary Magistrates in Madras 17–19
,, Minor irrigation works in Sriperumbudur taluk 253

Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.—
Question *re* picketers at Ghantasala, treatment by the Police of 884–885
,, picketers in Gudivada, Police action *re* — 883
,, police excesses in Koramunur 761

Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.—
Question *re* Aided School Managers in Educational Councils 744–745
,, Nambudiri Brahmans 17

Mahboob Ali Baig, Mr.—
Question *re* *Bezwada municipality, irregularities in the* 950–951
,, Muslim as Assistant Excise Commissioner, appoinmtent of a .. 182
,, Muslim representation, Excise Commissioner's office 182

Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—
Question *re* kists, rigorous measures for collection of 862

Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.—
Question *re* Edyaru Chathur Co-operative Society 746

Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.—
Question *re* scholarships to depressed classes 396

Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.—
Question *re* Cauvery bridge at Mettur, restrictions on the use of 859
,, Cauvery-Mettur Project, officers employed in the 858–859
,, Convictions for political offences 922
,, Copyists in the Judicial Department 901
,, Education grants to local bodies, reduction of 953–954
,, Execution of works at Mettur 859
,, Government Secondary Girls' School, Salem 953

29408
13 .. 1953

PAGES

Q—*cont.*

Questions and Answers—*cont.*

Nachiyappa Goundar, Mr. K. A.—*cont.*
Question *re* Jedarpalayam channel, failure of water in the 860
" Montford School, Yercaud 914–915
" Motor Vehicles for hire in Salem district 900–901
" murder cases in Salem district, number of 851
" toddy and arrack shops in Salem distr ict 745
" transfer of political prisoners 854
" village officers in Salem district, hereditary rights of .. 864–865
" village officers, travelling allowance to 865–866
" water-supply from Mettur dam to Salem 871

Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.—
Question *re* constitution of taluk boards 23–24, 76–77
" Pattukottai Mirasdars' Association and water cess 24–26
" Ryotwari Landholders Conference *re* kists revision 32

Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.—
Question *re* Infantry Battalions of Madrass, raising of 870

Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.—
Question *re* Madras Estates Land Bill 903–905

Palat, Mr. M. R.—
Question *re* paddy and coconuts, price in Malabar 863

Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.—
Question *re* training College, Saidapet, admission of students into the .. 952

Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.—
Question *re* congressmen, seizure of pictures of 469
" flag hoisting at Kuppam and prosecutions 482
" lathi charge, police excesses 104–106
" lathi charge on Volunteer Srinivasa Rao 106–107
" lathis, number in use in the police department 108–109
" recruitment of Adi-Dravidas to the Police Constabulary .. 850
" swedeshi and Anti-drink propaganda, banning of 115–116
" training to police subordinates in the use of lathis 480

Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.—
Question *re* Oriya as court language in the Vizagapatam Agency .. 955–956, 957–958
" taluk boards in Ganjam 15

Pocker Sahib, Bahadur, B.—
Question *re* Lady Willingdon Medical School 910–911
" Resident Medical Officer, Madras Ophthalmic Hospital . .. 746–749
" Secretariat, filling up of vacancies in the establishment of the. 949

Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.—
Question *re* compulsory education in Saidapet taluk 606–608
" depressed classes, age limit for Government service 184–185

Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala—
Question *re* Viswabrahman pupils and school fees 24
" Viswabrahmans and Government Service 877

Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.—
Question *re* Dodwell, Mr., I.C.S., irregularities on the part of 919–921
" lathi charge at Calicut Beach 876

Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.—
Question *re* Adi-Dravidas on the Chingleput District Board 540
" communications addressed to Collectors by name 864
" detention of pupils in Lady Willingdon Medical School .. 909
" Government offices, reduction of officials and clerks in .. 866–867
" heads of departments under the Law Department 852–853
" Lady Willingdon Medical School, opening of the hostel attached to the 960
" Lady Willingdon Medical College, selection examination .. 959–960
" L.M.P. Course, Lady Willingdon Medical School 909
" Treatment of Hindu pupils in Lady Willingdon Medical School. 909–910

4

PAGES

Q—*cont.*

Questions and Answers—*cont.*

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—
Question *re* police excesses at Robertsonpeta 622–623
,, police excesses in Gudivada 620
,, police excesses in Robertsonpeta 762
,, police excesses on ladies of Gandhi Ashramam, Komoravole .. 842–844
,, police excesses on Messrs. P. Veeriah and G. Sriramulu .. 842
,, police excesses on Nagi Reddi 762
,, Ramakotayya, M., Police behaviour to 621–622

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.—
Question *re* Ayyakannu Tevar, beating of, at Tinnevelly 945–946
,, Chinnappa Kaimal, arrest and beating of, by the Tinnevelly police 946
,, irrigation canals in Tinnevelly district, closure of 861
,, khadder Vastralaya at Tinnevelly, forfeiture of the funds of the 927–928
,, Krishna Ayyar, Mr., injury caused by the police to 890–891
,, Madaswami Asari, arrest and beating of, by the Tinnevelly police 946
,, Narayana Ayyar (K)., beating of, at Kallidaikurichi 944–945
,, Narayana Ayyar (T. C.), beating of, at Tinnevelly 945
,, Palayappa Pillai, beating of, by the police 944
,, police excesses in Tinnevelly town and Kallidaikurichi .. 940
,, police excesses in Tinnevelly, memorial *re* 941
,, police excesses in Tinnevelly town on 9th January 1932 .. 943–944
,, Ramaswamiah Pillai, arrest and beating of, by the Tinnevelly police 947

Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C. —
Question *re* Vacancies in the cadre of Sub-Judges 252

Shetty, Mr. A. B.—
Question *re* action against police for excessive use of force 929
,, agricultural school, Taliparamba 404–405
,, appointment of bus inspectors 394–396
,, beating of non-picketers at Pilicode 932
,, classification of prisoners, principles underlying the 853
,, constitution of Temple Committees 472–474
,, decline in civil suits and appeals 680
,, Paton, Dr.. prosecution of 929
,, excessive use of force by Police in Malabar 930–931
,, fish-curing yards, closed and reopened 254
,, fish oil and guano in South Kanara and Malabar 32
,, fisheries in West Coast 608–609
,, fisheries Training Institute, abolition of 31–32
,, fishery near Negapatam, catching of fish by Japanese fishermen from 875
,, Gandhi caps and Khaddar, instructions to Police not to molest wearers of 883
,, House Surgeons and House Physicians, selection and appointment of 27
,, Japanese fishermen, catching of fish near Negapatam by .. 875
,, kist, extension of time for payment of 861–862
,, lathi charges, injuries caused by 881
,, medical inspection 12–14
,, motor cars and accidents 21–22, 76
,, picketers, investigation into the beating of isolated 881–882
,, registration of motor vehicles and grant of driving licences .. 476–477
,, retrenchment in the pay of village officers 326–8
,, rice, import and export of 182–184
,, thali incident, result of enquiry into 115
,, training schools, reduction of the period of training 118–20
,, trawler 'Lady Goschen' 406–407
,, trawler 'Lady Goschen' and abolition of the post of Assistant Director of Marine 913
,, veterinary dispensaries in South Kanara 405–406

PAGES

Q—*cont.*

Questions and Answers—*cont.*
Simhachalam Pantulu, Mr. G.—
Question *re* clerical staff in District Medical Offices and Headquarters hospitals 911

Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.—
Question *re* assessment in Nadugudi, etc., villages of Nannilam taluk .. 185–186
,, Pamaniar, repairs to the 859–860

Sreshta, Mr. M. S.—
Question *re* liquor, adulteration of, in South Kanara 120

Sriramulu, Mr. G.—
Question *re* police excesses 842

Subbarayan, Dr. P.—
Question *re* Chingleput Distict Board, affairs in the 683–685
,, Police Commissioner's enquiry *in re* beating of Messrs. Subba Rao and Ramaswami 918
,, thali incident and Mr. Dodwell 482–483

Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.—
Question *re* abuses by Mangalore Police Inspector 759–760
,, addendum to the Police Gazette *re* use of lathis 938
,, assault on khaddar-clad men by an European Sergeant in Bezwada 331–332
,, beating of persons at Tiruppur for not removing Gandhi caps. 844–845
,, beating of picketers in Mangalore 845–846
,, beating of volunteers in Kanhangad 618–619
,, Bellary Central Jail, lathi charge on political prisoners in the. 854–855
,, civil disobedience movement, Instructions to officers *in re* .. 922–923
,, classification of civil disobedience prisoners 750
,, Dr. Paton case, withdrawal of 756–758
,, ill-treatment of picketers in Kasaragod 538
,, injuries to picketers lying in Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore .. 907–908
,, Khaddar Weaving Association, Rajahmundry, Police raid on 481–482
,, Khadi depot, Bezwada, raid by the police on the 845
,, lady convicts, removal of kunkumum and bangles 396–400
,, lathi charge, severe beating and kicking of volunteers in Mangalore 329–331
,, lathi charge at Coondapoor 935–936
,, lathi charge in Rajapalaiyam 537–538
,, lathi charge on Gandhi cap wearers 937
,, lathi charge on khadder-clad men at Coondapoor 936–937
,, lathi charge on a Udipi procession 759
,, lathi charge on peaceful picketers, Secretary of State's reply. 102–104
,, Murugasa Mudaliyar, Mr., School of Indian Medicine 685–687
,, Ordinances, convictions under 536–537
,, Ordinances, misuse of 839
,, picketers at Mangalore, beating by the police of 886–888
,, picketers in South Kanara, beating by the police of 888–889
,, police excesses in South Kanara 931–932
,, police excesses on civil resisters 108
,, police excesses on picketers in Mangalore 847
,, police expenditure in South Kanara in *re* civil disobedience movement 937
,, *Police Gazette* on lathi charge 477–480
,, ragi diet in jails 680–681
,, removal of thali from Mrs. Surendranath Prabhu 113–115
,, Secret Service Fund 938
,, unlawful assemblies, use of force, instructions to officers .. 923
,, unrest in the School of Indian Medicine 400–402
,, use of force against picketers, instructions of the Inspector-General of Police 611–616
,, volunteer in-patients in the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, accident register 402–404

Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib B.—
Question *re* Lakshmi Narasimham, Mr. M., alleged beating of 470

PAGES

Questions and Answers—cont.

Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.—
Question *re* beating of picketer Ayyaswami by the police at Madura .. 846–849
„ Bellary Central Jail, beating of prisoners in the 856
„ convictions *in re* civil disobedience movement 922
„ disciplinary action taken against the police for use of excessive force 841
„ Dodwell, Mr., Subdivisional Magistrate, letter of apology by. 836–837
„ Madura Municipality, reconstitution of 472
„ Meenakshi Sundareswarar Devasthanam Committee 474
„ Ordinances, withdrawal of 885
„ outlay on lathis and canes 538–539
„ Paton, Dr., beating and arrest of 879–881
„ Paton, Dr., correspondence with Secretary of State *re* beating and arrest of 881
„ *Police Commissioner's enquiry in re beating of Messrs.* Subba Rao and Ramaswami 917–918
„ use of force by police against picketers, etc. 839–840
„ withdrawal of cases like Dr. Paton's 758–759

Winter, Capt. W. E.—
Question *re* Adi-Dravida pupils, Admission into public schools 253–254
„ Central Co-operative Banks, loans granted to 951–952
„ Potato farm at Nanjanad 116–118
„ Siruvani Water Scheme 14–15
„ State aid to European firms 324
„ Tiruppur cotton, adulteration of 325–326

Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—
Question *re* Mopad, etc. tanks, improvements to the supply channel of the 876–877
„ Nellore Hospital Advisory Committee 763

R

Ragi diet—
Question *re* — in jails 680–681

Rajahmundry Police—
Adjournment motion *re* alleged compulsion, etc., by the — on khaddar-clad persons 688–689

Raid—
See Khadi depot, Bezwada.

Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.—
See Questions and Answers.

Rajan, the hon. Mr. P. T.—
Bills—
Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras .. 778, 779–780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787–791, 795
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras 795, 804–805, 806, 812
Budget motion *re*—
Agricultural policy of Government 670–672
Co-operative department 725–728
Registration department, communal representation in the 172–175
Veterinary department 704–707
Demand for grant *re*—
Agriculture—Transferred 649
Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred 672
Co-operative Societies—Transferred 707
Registration—Transferred 165

Ramachandra Rao, Mr. B.—
See Papers laid on the table.

PAGES

R—*cont.*

Ramakotayya, Mr. M.—
Question *re* — .. 939
Question *re* police behaviour to — .. 621–622

Ramalinga Ayyar, Mr. K. S.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — .. 896

Ramalinga Ayyar, Mr. V. K.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — .. 895

Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.—
Bills—
Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras .. 785, 791–794
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras .. 807, 810–811

Budget motion *re*—
Agricultural policy of Government .. 654–657
Constitutional Reforms .. 238, 239
Co-operative Department .. 712–714
Court-fees, revision of .. 131–132
Industrial policy of the Government .. 971–974
Irrigation policy of the Government .. 194–196
Jails, reformation of .. 422–424
Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme .. 465–466
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous .. 270–275, 278–279, 283

Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala—
Budget motion *re*—
Co-operative Department .. 721–722
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous .. 298–301
See Questions and Answers.

Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.—
Bill—
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras .. 801–802, 809–810
Budget motion *re* Fisheries policy of the Government .. 986
See Questions and Answers.

Ramanathan, Mr.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — .. 898
See Karmegham Pillai.

Ramaswamayya Pillai—
Question *re* arrest and beating of — by the Tinnevelly police .. 947

Ramaswami, Mr.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — .. 898

Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.—
Budget motion *re*—
Port Trust, Madras, representation of interests on the — .. 462
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous .. 301–303

Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.—
Bill—
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras .. 797–798
Budget motion *re*—
Agricultural policy of Government .. 661–665
Constitutional Reforms .. 228–230, 237
European schools .. 572–574
Irrigation policy of the Government .. 196–199
See Questions and Answers.

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.—
Budget motion *re*—
Agricultural policy of Government .. 649–654
Constitutional Reforms .. 227–228
Co-operative Department .. 708–712
Excise policy of the Government .. 62–63
Forest policy of the Government .. 156–157
See Questions and Answers.

PAGES

Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. M. D. T.—
See Questions and Answers.

Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.—
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms 235–237
Legislative Council, allowances of Members of the 258–259
Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme 485–486
Veterinary Department 694–696

Rangayya, Mr. Mulpuri—
Question *re* alleged beating of — by the police 469

Recruitment—
See 'Adi-Dravidas.'

Reforms—
Budget motion *re* the introduction of further — 220–247

Refunds of revenue—Reserved and Transferred—
Demand for supplementary grant *re* — 775–778
See Demand for Grant 997

Registrar of the High Court—
Question *re* non-civilian as — 749

Registration Department—
Budget motion *re* communal representation in the — 165–175
Question *re* Establishment—Transfers 326

Registration—Transferred—
See Demand for Grant.

Repairs—
See Pamaniar.

Repaka Appanna, Mr.—
See Papers laid on the table.

Resident Medical Officer—
Question re qualifications of — *746–749*

Retrenchment—
Question *re* — of Junior Assistant Surgeons. 908
See Village officers.

Retrenchment Committee—
See Special pays.

Retrenchment Committee Report—
Discussion re allotment of a day for the discussion of the — 764
See Papers laid on the table.

Rice—
Question *re* import and export of — 182–184

Rowji, Mr. K. S. V.—
See Tindivanam District Munsif.

Rulings—
Budget motions—
Discussion of the merits of a cut motion as compared with other motions is out of order 361
Speaking on proposals of the Retrenchment Committee, hon. Members can refer *only* to proposals included in the particular Demand under discussion and not to proposals relating to other Demands 277, 296
Written speeches—
A written speech should not be unduly long 300

Ryotwari Landholders' Conference—
Question *re* kist revision 32

PAGES

S

Sahajananda, Swami A. S.—
Budget motion *re*—
Commissioner of Labour 991
Co-operative Department 724–725
Court fees, reduction of 132
Delay in the disposal of cases 373–375
Education policy of Government 517–523
Forest policy of the Government 151
Registration Department, communal representation in the 171
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous 285–291
Travelling and daily allowances of M.L.C.'s 256

Salem—
Question *re* water-supply to — from Mettur Dam 871

Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.—
Budget motion *re*—
Ministers' policy 342–345
Excise policy of the Government 66–67
Legislative Council Library 263–264
Police policy in *re* Civil Disobedience Movement 442–445, 449

Sankaram Pillai, Mr. M.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — 899

Sankaranarayana Ayyar, Mr.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — 895

Saravana Pillai—
Question *re* arrest of — and Pichai Pillai of Udaiyarpalaiyam 958

Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.—
Budget motion *re*—
Jails, reformation of 424–425
Judicial Department, permanent vacancies in the 366–368
See Questions and Answers.

Scholarships to depressed classes—
Question *re* — 396

School fees—
See Viswabrahman pupils.

School of Indian Medicine—
Question *re* unrest in — 400–402

Secret Service Fund—
Question *re* — 938

Secretariat—
Question *re* filling up of vacancies on the establishment of — 949

Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, etc.—
Budget motion *re* — 266–321
Demand for supplementary grant *re* — 775
See Demand for Grant.

Secretary of State's reply—
Question *re* — on lathi charge 102–104

Seizure of Pictures of Congressmen—
Question *re* — 469

Shetty, Mr. A. B.—
Budget motion *re*—
Agricultural policy of Government 657–659
Commissioner of Labour 989–991
Education policy of Government 498–500
European Schools 560–561
Fisheries policy of the Government 982–984
Forest policy of the Government 143–145
Jails, reformation of — 410–413
Land Revenue Policy of the Government 43–44
Public Health Department 624–627
Veterinary Department, inadequacy of the aid given by the 673–674, 707
See Questions and Answers.

PAGES

S—*cont.*

Simhachalam, Mr. G.—
Bill—
Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras 794–795
Budget motion *re* Co-operative Department 715–717
See Questions and Answers.

Siruvani Water Scheme—
Question *re* — 14–15

Siva Raj, Mr. N.—
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms 221–222
Port Trust, representation of interests on the 462

Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.—
See Questions and Answers.

Slater, Mr. S. H.—
Bills—
Co-operative Societies Bill, the Madras 786, 807–808
Cotton Control Bill, the Madras 802–803

South Kanara—
Question *re* beating of picketers in — 888–889

Special pays—
Question *re* Retrenchment Committee and — 474–476

Sreshta, Mr. M. S.—
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms 231–235
Education policy of the Government 502–509
Fisheries policy of the Government 984–986
Legislative Council, allowances to Members of the 250
Legislative Council Library 259–261
Registration Department, communal representation in the .. 168–170, 174–175

See Questions and Answers.

Sri Lakshmi Ammal—
Question *re* classification of — as C class prisoner 753

Sri Lakshmi Varaha Temple, Kalladakurichi—
Question *re* Police raid on — 897

Sriramulu, Mr. G.—
Budget motion *re*—
Excise policy of the Government 121–124
Registration Department, communal representation in the 165–166
See Questions and Answers.

Stamps—Reserved—
See Demand for Grant.

State aid to European firms—
Question *re* — 324

Stationery and Printing—Reserved and Transferred—
See Demand for Grant.

Stokes, the hon. Mr. H. G.—
Budget motion *re*—
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous 313–317
Demand for supplementary grant *re* Refunds of Revenue 775, 777
Motion *re*—
Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway .. 765, 766
Finance Committee, election of members to the 765
Public Accounts Committee, election of members to the 765
Retrenchment Committee Report, allotment of a day for discussing the .. 764

PAGES

S—*cont.*

Subbarayan, Dr. P.—
Adjournment motion *re*—
"Buy Indian League" procession at Narasapur, Police dispersal of the .. 408, 410
Motor vehicles plying for hire 33
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms 221
Ministers' policy 351–352
Police policy *in re* Civil Disobedience Movement 435–439, 440
Conviction and classification of political prisoners 365–366, 373, 413
Constitutional Reforms, discussion *re* allotment of a day for the discussion of 361–363
See Questions and Answers.

Subdivisional Magistrate, Tellicherry
See Dodwell, Mr.

Sub-Judges—
Question *re* vacancies in the cadre of — 252

Subrahmanya Pillai, Mr.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — 896

Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.—
See Questions and Answers.

Subrahmanyam's Ashramam—
See Erneni Subrahmanyam's Ashramam.

Sudekannu (picketer—Tinnevelly)—
Question *re* injuries caused to — 900

Supervisors—
Question *re* reduction of — in Public Works Department 864–866

Supplementary Question —
Alleged discourtesy in answering a — 623–624

Swadeshi—
Budget motion *re* — 739–742

Swadeshi and anti-drink propaganda—
Question *re* banning of — 115–116

Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras—
Question *re* licence to hold the — 924–925
,, seizure of articles at the — 926–927
,, seizure of records, etc., in *re* 925–926

T

Taliparamba—
See Agricultural School.

Taluk Boards—
Question *re* constitution of — 23–24, 76–77
,, — in Ganjam 15

Tellicherry Ranga Rao—
Question *re* lathi charge on — 935–936, 936–937

Thali—
Question *re* removal of — from Mrs. Surendranath Prabhu 113–115

Thali incident—
Question *re* result of enquiry into — 115
,, — and Mr. Dodwell 482–483

Thomas, Mr. Daniel—
Budget motion *re*—
Irrigation policy of the Government 199–202
Papanasam project 494–495
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, etc. 310–312

Tindivanam District Munsif—
Question *re* conduct of the — 185
,, irregularities of — (Mr. K. S. V. Rowji) 17

Tinnevelly—
See Ambulance workers; Picketers; Police excesses.

PAGES

T—*cont.*

Tinnevelly town—
Question *re* police excesses in — 897

Tiruppur cotton—
Question *re* adulteration of — 325–326

Toddy and arrack shops—
Question *re* — in Salem district 745

Training College, Saidapet—
Question *re* admission of students into the — 952

Training Schools —
Question *re* reduction of the period of training in — 118–120

Transfer—
See Political prisoners.

Transport—
See Motor Transport.

Travelling allowance—
Question *re* rate of — to village officers 865–866

Tuberculosis Hospital, Madras—
Question *re* in-patients in the — 870

Udaiyarpalaiyam—
Question *re* arrest of certain persons in — 959
,, memorial from the ryots of — 947–948

U

Unlawful assemblies—
Question *re* use of force on —, directions to the police 923

Unlawful Association Ordinance—
See Mahajana Sabha.

Ushamani, Srimathi—
Question *re* drenching of — 841–842

Usman Sahib Bahadur, the hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed—
Adjournment motion *re*—
Buy Indian League procession at Narasapur, police dispersal of the 409–410

Budget motion *re*—
Commissioner of Labour 994–995
Constitutional Reforms 238
European schools 576–577
Legislative Council, allowances of Members of the — 257–258
Legislative Council Library 264–265
Legislative Council office to be constituted into an independent office 255–256
Police policy in *re* civil disobedience movement 450–454
Constitutional Reforms, discussion *re* allotment of a day for the discussion of 362–363
Demand for grant *re*—
Education—Reserved (European) 560
Heads of Provinces and Executive Council—Reserved 220
Legislative Bodies—Reserved 255
Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved 989
Police—Reserved 432
Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, etc.—Reserved 266
Discussion *re* early rising of the House on account of lunar eclipse 689
Retrenchment Committee Report, allotment of a day for discussing the. 764
Supplementary Question—
Alleged discourtesy in answering a — 624

PAGES

V

Vadapalli rioting case—
Question *re* — cost incurred by Government 328-329

Veeriah, Mr. G.—
Question *re* police excesses on — 842

Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.—
Adjournment motion *re*—
Alleged police action against khaddar-clad persons at Rajahmundry .. 688–689
Budget motion *re*—
Education policy of Government — 495–498
Government and swadeshi — 739–742
Irrigation policy of the Government 205–207
See Questions and Answers.

Venkataramayya—
See Dhanabagyam.

Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib B.—
Budget motion *re*—
Constitutional Reforms 220–221, 247
Co-operative Department 717–720
Irrigation policy of the Government 193–194
Legislative Council, allowances of Members of the 257
Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous 295–298
See Questions and Answers.

Veterinary Department—
Budget motion *re* — 673–674, 690–707

Veterinary dispensaries in South Kanara—
Question *re* — 405–406

Village officers—
Question *re* hereditary rights of — in Salem district 864–865
,, punishment of — 610–611
,, retrenchment in the pay of — 326–328
,, travelling allowance to — 865–866

Viraswami Ayyar, K. R.—
Question *re* lathi charge on — 891

Viswabrahmans—
Question *re* appointment of — to Government Service 877

Viswabrahman pupils—
Question *re* — and school-fees 24

Vizagapatam Agency—
Questions *re* Oriya as Court language in the — 955–956, 957–958

W

Water-cess—
Question *re* Pattukkottai Mirasidars' Association 24–27

Water charge—
Question *re* levy of — for water pumped from private wells 948–949
,, levy of — for industrial purposes 862–863

Water-supply—
See Salem.

Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore—
See Picketers; Accident Register.

Winter, Capt. W. E.—
Budget motion *re*—
Jail industries 388–392, 424
Medical policy of Government 596–597
See Questions and Answers.

PAGES

Y

Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur—
Budget motion *re*—
Education policy of Government 524–527
Forest policy of the Government 151–154
See Questions and Answers.

Yakub Hasan, Mr.—
Budget motion *re*—
Excise policy of the Government 68–69
Industrial policy of the Government 961–965
Muslim education, encouragement of — 523–524
Muslim representation in the Judiciary — 379–385

Z

Zamindar of Udaiyarpalaiyam—
Question *re* intimidation of the ryots by the — 905–906

PERSONNEL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

Governor of Madras.

His Excellency Lieut.-Col. the Right Hon. Sir GEORGE FREDERICK STANLEY, P.C., G.C.I.E., C.M.G. Took his seat on the 12th November 1929.

Members of the Executive Council.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur, *Kt.*, Home Member. Took his seat on the 30th March 1925 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Police, including Railway Police and C.I.D.
2. Regulation of betting and gambling.
3. Prevention of cruelty to animals.
4. Control of poisons.
5. Control of vehicles.
6. Control of dramatic performances and cinematographs.
7. Control of newspapers, books and printing presses.
8. Laccadives.
9. European vagrancy.
10. European and Anglo-Indian education.
11. Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
12. Government Houses, Staff and equipment of His Excellency the Governor.
13. Government Presses.
14. Elections for Indian and Provincial Legislatures.
15. Industrial matters included under the following heads :—
    - (*a*) Factories.
    - (*b*) Settlement of labour disputes.
    - (*c*) Boilers.
    - (*d*) Gas.
    - (*e*) Smoke nuisances.
    - (*f*) Welfare of labour including depressed classes.
16. Criminal tribes.
17. Stores and Stationery (required for Reserved Departments).

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Control of petroleum and explosives.
2. Central police organization.
3. Arms and ammunition.
4. Emigration and immigration.
5. Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz.

2. The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR, *Kt.*, Law Member. Took his seat on the 25th April 1928 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Administration of justice, including constitution, powers, maintenance and organization of courts of civil and criminal jurisdiction within the province.
2. Provincial law reports.
3. Administrator-General and Official Trustees.
4. Escheats.
5. Coroners.
6. Treasure-trove.
7. Non-judicial and judicial stamps.
8. Prisons and prisoners.

I.—Provincial Subjects—cont.

9. Industrial matters included under the following head: Electricity, including hydro-electric scheme.
10. Forests (including Cinchona) except panchayat forests.
11. Minor Ports.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Civil law.
2. Inventions and designs.
3. Copyright.
4. Criminal law.
5. Major Ports.
6. Shipping and navigation.
7. Lighthouses.
8. Port quarantine and marine hospitals.

3. The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., Member in charge of Revenue. Took his seat on the 29th June 1929 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Land Revenue administration as described under the following heads, namely :—
   (*a*) Assessment and collection of land revenue.
   (*b*) Maintenance of land records ; survey for revenue purposes ; records of rights.
   (*c*) Laws regarding land tenures ; relations of landlords and tenants ; collection of rents.
   (*d*) Court of Wards, encumbered and attached estates.
   (*e*) Land improvement and agricultural loans.
   (*f*) Colonization and disposal of Crown lands.
   (*g*) Management of Government estates.
   (*h*) Panchayat forests.
2. Yeomiahs, inams and hereditary pensions.
3. Water-supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments ; water storage and water power.
4. Inland waterways including shipping and navigation thereon.
5. Economic condition including wages and prices and famine-relief.
6. Land acquisition, excepting notifications under sub-section (1) of section 4 and declarations under sub-section (1) of section 6 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, where the public purpose referred to in the said sub-sections appertains to a transferred subject.
7. Development of mineral resources.
8. Protection of wild birds and animals.
9. Pounds and prevention of cattle trespass.
10. Provincial gazetteers.
11. Agency tracts.
12. Fortnightly reports and preliminary special reports to the Government of India.
13. General service questions.
14. Office procedure.
15. Secretariat.
16. Matters of a general nature not allocated elsewhere.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. Geological survey.
2. Mineral development.
3. Botanical survey.
4. Survey of India.
5. Zoological survey.
6. Meteorology.
7. Census and Statistics.
8. Territorial changes.
9. Immovable property in possession of the Governor-General in Council.
10. All-India services.
11. Public Services Commission.
12. Reforms.

4. The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Finance Member. Took his seat on the 19th March 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

I.—Provincial Subjects.

1. Provincial finance.
2. Pensions.
3. Local Fund audit.
4. Preservation and translation of ancient manuscripts.
5. Central Record office.

II.—Central Subjects.

1. (*a*) Defence of India.
   (*b*) Naval and Military works and cantonments.
2. External relations, including naturalization and aliens and pilgrimage beyond India except to the Hedjaz.
3. Relations with States in India.
4. Political charges.
5. Communications.
6. Posts and telegraphs and telephones, including wireless installations.
7. Sources of all-India revenues.
8. Currency and coinage.
9. Public debt of India.
10. Savings banks.
11. Indian Audit Department.
12. Commerce, including Banks and Insurance.
13. Trading Companies and other Associations.
14. Opium (Central questions regarding —).
15. Central Research.
16. Ecclesiastical.
17. Archæology.
18. Regulation of ceremonial titles, orders, precedence and civil uniform.
19. Subjects not allocated elsewhere.

Ministers.

1. The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu, Minister for Local Self-Government. Took his seat on the 27th October 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Local Self-Government including village panchayats.
2. Medical administration.
3. Public Health and Sanitation and Vital Statistics.
4. Religious and Charitable Endowments.
5. Adulteration of food-stuffs and other articles.
6. Light and Feeder Railways and Tramways within municipal areas.
7. Stores and Stationery (required for Transferred Departments).

2. The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan, Minister for Public Works. Took his seat on the 27th October 1930 and is in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Agriculture.
2. Civil Veterinary Department.
3. Public Works (Buildings, Roads, Ferries, Ropeways, etc.).
4. Co-operative Societies.
5. Registration.
6. Weights and Measures.

3. The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, Minister for Education and Excise. Took his seat on the 27th October 1930 and s in charge of the following portfolios :—

1. Education (other than European and Anglo-Indian education).
2. Excise.
3. Development of Industries.
4. Fisheries.
5. Libraries, Museums and Zoological Gardens.
6. Pilgrimage within British India.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President.

The hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI.

Deputy President.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur G. JAGANNADHA RAJU Garu.

Panel of Chairmen.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED.
M.R.Ry. Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU Garu.
,, T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR Avargal.
Mr. F. E. JAMES.

Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR Avargal, B.A., M.L.

Assistant Secretary to the Council.

M.R.Ry. D. K. V. RAGHAVA VARMA Garu, B.A., B.L.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
1. Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.	Madras City, Muhammadan Urban.
2. Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur, Moulvi Hafeez Anumanthakudi Mustapha.	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly, Muhammadan Rural.
3. Alagannan Chettiyar, Rao Sahib A. S.	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
4. Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.	NOMINATED.
5. Annamalai Chettiyar, S. A. A.	Nattukottai Nagarathar's Association.
6. Arasu, V. T.	NOMINATED.
7. Ari Gowder, H. B. ..	The Nilgiris, N.-M. Rural.
8. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.	Central Districts, Indian Christian.
9. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.	Central Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
10. Basu Dev, C.	NOMINATED.
11. Bayappa Reddi, P.	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
12. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.	Ceded Districts, Muhammadan Rural.
13. Bhanoji Rao, A. V.	NOMINATED.
14. Birley, Frank	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
15. Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.	EX OFFICIO.
16. Davis, O.B.E., J. A.	Anglo-Indian.
17. Devadasan, M.	NOMINATED.
18. Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.	NOMINATED.
19. Duraiswami Reddiyar, K. M.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
20. Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
21. Foulkes, R.	NOMINATED.
22. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
23. Harischandrudu Nayudu, A. ..	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
24. Hood, I.C.S., H. M.	NOMINATED.
25. Hutton, A. W.	European.
26. Indrayya, C.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
27. Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G. (*Deputy President*).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
28. Jagannatham, H. M.	NOMINATED.
29. James, F. E.	Madras Planters.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
30. Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
31. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, K.	Cocanada City, N.-M. Urban.
32. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.	Madura and Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, Muhammadan Urban.
33. Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
34. Koti Reddi, K.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
35. Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D. ..	NOMINATED.
36. Krishnan, C.	NOMINATED.
37. Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.	EX OFFICIO.
38. Krishnaswami Ayyar, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.	NOMINATED.
39. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri (Raja Velugoti Sarvagnya Kumara Krishnayachendrula Bahadur Varu).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
40. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. (*Minister*).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
41. Kuppuswami Choudari, J. ..	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
42. Lakshmana Reddi, G. ..	Anantapur, N.-M. Rural.
43. Luker, F. G.	Madras Trades Association.
44. Madanagopal Nayudu, R. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
45. Madhusoodhanan Thangal, P.	NOMINATED.
46. Maharaja of Venkatagiri (Sri Raja Velugoti Sir Govinda Krishna Yachendrula Bahadur Varu, K.C.I.E., Lieutenant-Colonel).	North Central Landholders.
47. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.	Northern Circars, Muhammadan Rural.
48. Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	South Kanara, Muhammadan Rural.
49. Manikkavelu Nayakar, M. A.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
50. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
51. Moses, P. C.	Northern Districts, Christian.
52. Muhammad Meera Ravuttar Bahadur, K. P. V. S. ..	Madura *cum* Trichinopoly, Muhammadan Rural.
53. Muniswami Nayudu, the hon. Diwan Bahadur B. (*Minister*).	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
54. Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.	NOMINATED.
55. Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
56. Muthiah Chettiyar, M. A. ..	Southern India Chamber of Commerce.
57. Muthu Chettiyar, P. C. ..	Madura, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
58. Nachiyappa Gounder, K. A. ..	Salem, N.-M. Rural.
59. Nadimuthu Pillai, A. Pl. N. V.	Tanjore N.-M. Rural.
60. Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.	NOMINATED.
61. Narasa Reddi, T.	Cuddapah, N.-M. Rural.
62. Narasimhaswami, D. V. ..	Godavari East, N.-M. Rural.
63. Narayanan Nambiyar, V. P.	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
64. Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
65. Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
66. Palat, R. M.	West Coast Landholders.
67. Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.	Tanjore and Trichinopoly *cum* Madura, Christian.
68. Parthasarathi Ayyangar, C. R.	Chittoor, N.-M. Rural.
69. Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
70. Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
71. Pattabhiramayya, K.	Kistna, N.-M. Rural.
72. Pattagar of Palayakottai (Rai Bahadur Nallathambi Sarkarai Manradiyar).	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
73. Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B. ..	Malabar, Muhammadan Rural.
74. Premayya, G. R.	NOMINATED.
75. Rajagopala Pillai, P. V. ..	NOMINATED.
76. Raja of Bobbili (Sri Ravu Swetachallapathi Ramakrishna Ranga Rao).	Vizagapatam, N.-M. Rural.
77. Raja of Kallikote (Raja Sri Ramachandra Marda Raja Deo Garu).	Northern Landholders, I.
78. Raja of Parlakimedi (Sri Sri Sri Krishna Chandra Gajapathi Narayana Deo Garu).	Ganjam, N.-M. Rural.
79. Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T. (*Minister*).	Madura, N.-M. Rural.
80. Ramachandra Padayachi, P. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
81. Ramachandra Reddi, The hon. Mr. B. (*President*).	Nellore, N.-M. Rural.
82. Ramakrishna Reddi, A. ..	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
83. Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
84. Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala ..	NOMINATED.
85. Raman Menon, K. P.	Malabar, N.-M. Rural.
86. Ramaswami Ayyar, T. S. ..	Madras University.
87. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, V. M.	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
88. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, A. ..	Bellary, N.-M. Rural.
89. Ronganatha Mudaliyar, G. ..	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
90. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, M. D. T.	Tinnevelly *cum* Palamcottah, N.-M. Urban.
91. Rangaswami Reddi, M. B. ..	North Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
92. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.	Coimbatore, N.-M. Rural.
93. Sahajananda, Swami A. S. ..	NOMINATED.
94. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
95. Satyanarayana Choudari, C. ..	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
96. Sesha Reddi, B. P.	Kurnool, N.-M. Rural.
97. Shetty, A. B.	South Kanara, N.-M. Rural.
98. Simhachalam Pantulu, Gade ..	Guntur, N.-M. Rural.
99. Singam Ayyangar, K. ..	Trichinopoly *cum* Srirangam, N.-M. Urban.
100. Siva Raj, N.	NOMINATED.
101. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, K. S.	Tanjore, N.-M. Rural.
102. Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., S.H.	NOMINATED.
103. Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., E. Conran.	NOMINATED.
104. Soundara Pandian, W. P. A.	NOMINATED.
105. Sreshta, M. S.	West Coast, Christian.
106. Srinivasa Ayyangar, T. C. ..	Ramnad, N.-M. Rural.
107. Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R. ..	NOMINATED.
108. Sriramulu, G.	NOMINATED.
109. Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.	EX-OFFICIO.
110. Subbarayan, Dr. P. ..	South Central Landholders.
111. Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.	NOMINATED.
112. Subrahmanya Bhatt, U. C. ..	Kanara South, N.-M. Rural.
113. Sundara Rao Nayudu, T. ..	Madras City, N.-M. Urban.
114. Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.	Tanjore, Muhammadan.
115. Thomas, Daniel	Ramnad *cum* Tinnevelly, Christian.
116. Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., J. A. ..	NOMINATED.
117. Tottenham, C.I.E. I.C.S., G.R.F.	NOMINATED.
118. Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.	EX-OFFICIO.
119. Vasudeva Pillai, V. G. ..	NOMINATED.
120. Vedachala Mudaliyar, M. ..	Chingleput, N.-M. Rural.
121. Venkatarama Ayyar, K. R. ..	Madura City, N.-M. Urban.
122. Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.	Godavari West, N.-M. Rural.
123. Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.	South Arcot, N.-M. Rural.
124. Winter, Captain W. E. ..	Madras Chamber of Commerce.
125. Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.	East Coast, Muhammadan Rural.
126. Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.	North Arcot *cum* Chingleput.

Name of member.	Name and class of constituency.
127. Zamindar of Bodinayakkanur (Kamaraja Pandia Nayakar, T. V. K.).	Southern Landholders.
128. Zamindar of Chemudu (Sri Vyricherla Narayana Gajapati Raju).	Vizagapatam City, N.-M. Urban.
129. Zamindar of Ettayapuram (Raja Jaga Veera Rama Kumara Venkateswara Ettappa Nayakar Ayyan).	Tinnevelly, N.-M. Rural.
130. Zamindar of Kirlampudi (Sri Raja Ravu Ramakrishna Ranga Rao).	NOMINATED.
131. Zamindar of Minampalli (K. C. M. Venkatachala Reddiyar).	Trichinopoly, N.-M. Rural.
132. Zamindar of Mirzapuram (Mirzapuram Raja alias Venkataramayya Appa Rao).	Northern Landholders, II.

SPECIAL MEMBERS.

133. Appu Nayar, P.	NOMINATED for the consideration of the Nambudri Bill and the Marumakkattayam Bills.
134. Newcomb, Lieut.-Col. Clive ..	NOMINATED for the consideration of the Bill to amend the Madras Medical Registration Act, 1914.
135. Strathie, I.C.S., D. N. ..	NOMINATED for the consideration of a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Co-operative Societies in the Presidency of Madras.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

Second Session of the Fourth Legislative Council under the Government of India Act, 1919.

Friday, the 11th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (**the hon.** Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayarammа, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subedar-Major S. A.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Proposals of the Director of Public Instruction for medical inspection on improved lines.

* 986 *Q*.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) the nature of the proposals made by the Director of Public Instruction for medical inspection on improved lines; and

(*b*) the orders passed by the Government in regard to these proposals?

A.—The Government have not passed orders on the proposals of the Director of Public Instruction and they do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by publishing his proposals at this stage.

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know, Sir, why no useful purpose will be served by publishing the Director's proposals at this stage? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" They are still under the consideration of Government."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know, Sir, in what respects the new proposals are an improvement over the existing system? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" It depends upon what is regarded as ' improvement '."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know whether the Government is satisfied with the haphazard manner in which the medical inspection in schools is conducted at present? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Yes, Government are not quite satisfied with the present system."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know, whether the new proposals, when given effect to, will increase the cost of inspection or decrease it? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" That is also a matter which is being examined."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know what is the confidential nature of the proposals which makes it inadvisable to publish them just now? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" It is still in the stage of a mere proposal from the head of the department to the Government. The Government may or may not accept it."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction has called the attention of the Government to the unsatisfactory nature of the medical inspection that is being carried on at present? "

11th March 1932]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" He has, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, if the proposal is to get medical inspection done by private medical practitioners or by Government medical practitioners ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" By Government medical officers when they are available; if they are not available, by private medical practitioners."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is fair that Government servants should accept two appointments, one under the Government and another under private bodies? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is not employment under a private body. It is something like having private practice which is allowed under the rules."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it because the report is very unsatisfactory, Sir, that the Government does not like to publish it? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I may tell the hon. Members of the House that the Retrenchment Committee have considered the matter; their proposals also are before the Government and they are also being considered."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the Government will be pleased to refer these proposals to the managers of secondary schools who also contribute a share towards the cost of medical inspection? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not know which proposal he means, the Director's proposals or those of the Retrenchment Committee."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" I mean the new proposals of the Director of Public Instruction ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" If it is necessary, perhaps, we shall be able to arrive at a conclusion in the light of the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee even without taking the advice of managers of schools."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" May I know briefly the nature of the proposals ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the Government have placed the report before the Advisory Committee on Education ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Not before the Advisory Committee."

[11th March 1932

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether Government propose to levy any scale of fees for medical inspection?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"There is a scale of fees already."

Public Works

Erection of the Siruvani Water Scheme Dam.

*987 *Q.*—Capt. W. E. Winter: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to question No. 790 answered at the Council meeting, dated the 28th January 1932—

(*a*) when the Government intend to start actual work in connexion with the erection of the Siruvani Water Scheme Dam; and

(*b*) the date of the acceptance by Government of the tender for carrying out the above work?

A.—(*a*) When a tender is accepted and a contract arranged for the work.

(*b*) The Government have not yet accepted a tender.

Capt. W. E. Winter:—"May I know, Sir, whether a tender has since been accepted?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"No, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—"May I know, whether tenders have been received by the Chief Engineer?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I have no information on the subject."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask, Sir, if the new proposals regarding the Siruvani dam involve extra cost over the estimate already made?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"We are awaiting the report of the Chief Engineer."

Capt. W. E. Winter:—"May I know, Sir, whether the General Construction Company of Madras have sent their tender and whether that tender has been accepted by Government?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"The Government have not yet heard from the Chief Engineer about the tenders and are awaiting his report."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know, Sir, what the hon. Minister means by saying 'tenders have been received' when I asked about the cost of the dam? I want to know whether he has not already got an estimate of the cost of the dam?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"This is a matter primarily concerning Local Self-Government Department."

11th March 1932]

Capt. W. E. WINTER:—" May I know, Sir, whether when the tender is accepted, Government will include a clause to the effect that the company should be responsible for starting the work on the specified date?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The Government will consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the estimate has not been already prepared in the Public Works Department?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" An estimate was originally prepared and subsequently it was revised. With reference to the revised estimate tenders have been called. I think, the revised estimate is certainly higher in cost than the original estimate."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, whether the acceptance of the tender is left to the Chief Engineer or to the Government?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The recommendations of the Chief Engineer on the tenders are sent to the Government and the Government pass orders thereon."

Local Self-Government

Constitution of taluk boards in the Ganjam district.

* 988 *Q.*—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether taluk boards were ordered to be constituted for each of the taluks in the Berhampur subdivision of the Ganjam district;

(*b*) whether all or any of the taluk boards in the Ganjam district were bifurcated; and

(*c*) if any of the taluk boards were not bifurcated, what the reasons are?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) It is proposed to split up the areas of the Chatrapur and Ghumsur Taluk Boards into two each and that of the Chicacole Taluk Board into three.

(*c*) Financial considerations do not permit of the constitution of a taluk board for each of the revenue taluks in the Berhampur subdivision. The Surada taluk is small and cannot therefore maintain a taluk board. It is therefore proposed to form a single taluk board for Aska and Surada together.

[11th March 1932

Land Revenue Administration

Damage by floods in South Arcot.

* 989 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the extent of damage caused is to life and property in the recent floods in South Arcot:

(*b*) what the measures undertaken by the Government are to afford relief to the people in distress;

(*c*) what the amount allotted for the purpose of relief is;

(*d*) what the number is of irrigation tanks affected by the recent floods in South Arcot:

(*e*) whether the tanks damaged have been restored or not; and

(*f*) what the amount allotted for purchase of cattle and of materials for constructing houses for each taluk is?

A.—(*a*) & (*d*) There has been no loss of life or livestock; 41 minor irrigation tanks and 12 Public Works Department tanks breached. There were also breaches in the Vadavar bank and the Budangudi channel.

Crops on about 200 acres in Chidambaram taluk were destroyed by submersion. Paddy and sugarcane crops were affected in Chidambaram and Cuddalore taluks, but the outturn has been fair.

One hundred and forty huts were wholly or partially destroyed.

(*b*) Ten loans amounting to Rs. 395 have been granted for rebuilding houses; 11 applications are still pending. Free grants of timber and leaves valued at Rs. 575 have also been made for the same purpose.

(*c*) No special allotment has been made. The expenditure will be met from the allotment for the district under Loans.

(*e*) The breaches in 36 tanks have been closed. The breaches in the Vadavar were closed by kudimaramat and all the breaches in the Budangudi channel were closed by Government.

(*f*) No amount has been specially allotted for the purpose referred to.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask, Sir, whether the 140 huts which have been partially or wholly destroyed have been replaced and whether Government have rendered any help to the sufferers?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"The help rendered by Government has been mentioned in the answer to clause (*b*). Whether the huts have been actually rebuilt by this time or not, I have no information, but I have no reason to suppose they have not been."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask, Sir, how many of those people who have lost their huts were helped by Government?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I must ask for notice of the question."

11th March 1932]

Public Service

Nambudri Brahmans in Government service.

* 990 *Q.*—Mr. P. Madhusoodhanan Thangal: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what the number is of Kerala Brahmans (Nambudris) in Government services?

A.—Government have no information.

Administration of Justice

Alleged irregularities of Mr. K. S. V. Rowji, District Munsif, Tindivanam.

* 991 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that while Mr. K. S. V. Rowji was presiding over the District Munsif's Court of Madurantakam at Chingleput, a number of complaints were made to the District Judge against his maltreatment of the parties;

(*b*) if so, how many such complaints were received by the District Judge and what action was taken against the said District Munsif;

(*c*) what was the number of petitions filed before the District Judge for transfer of suits from the file of Mr. K. S. V. Rowji while he was presiding over the District Munsif's Court of Madurantakam at Chingleput; and

(*d*) when was the District Munsif of Madurantakam transferred to Tindivanam and for what reasons was he transferred?

A.—Government have no information, but have called for it.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know, Sir, whether, when information has since been received?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"No, Sir."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know, Sir, whether, when it is received, it will be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I shall consider my hon. Friend's suggestion."

Proposal to increase the number of the Honorary Presidency Magistrates in Madras.

* 992 *Q.*—Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have under their consideration a proposal to increase the number of Honorary Presidency Magistrates in the City of Madras;

(*b*) whether they had at any time considered proposals to increase their number to 150;

(*c*) whether there was any suggestion either from the Commissioner of Police or from the Chief Presidency Magistrate or from the Madras public that there should be at least 150 Honorary Magistrates;

(*d*) when the Committee, to whom the function of selecting the *Honorary Presidency* Magistrates has been assigned, met last; and

(*e*) what the number of applications for such honorary posts received was—

(i) by the Government direct,
(ii) by the Chief Presidency Magistrate,
(iii) by the *Commissioner of* Police,
(iv) by the Collector of Madras,

in 1930 and 1931 respectively, and how many applications were received from women candidates in these years ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) A proposal to increase the number of the Honorary Presidency Magistrates from 100 to 150 was received from the Chief Presidency Magistrate and was sanctioned by Government in June 1931. Both the Commissioner of Police and the Collector of Madras were consulted.

(*d*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

(*e*) (i) No such applications were received by the Government direct during the year 1930. During 1931 six applications were received and they were forwarded to the Chief Presidency Magistrate for necessary action.

(ii), (iii) & (iv) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know, Sir, what were the reasons put forward by the Chief Presidency Magistrate for increasing the number from 100 to 150? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Because the number that existed before was found inadequate to cope with the work."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Was it merely due to the inadequacy of the number or for any other reasons? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" No other reason."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether Government have arrived at any final conclusion in regard to the increase in the number? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" If my hon. Friend had read the answer to clauses (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) of the question, probably he would not have put this question. The printed answer says that the proposal has been sanctioned by Government."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know what are the qualifications that are prescribed for a person to be appointed as an Honorary Presidency Magistrate? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" There are no special qualifications, but one must be a man of culture and status in society."

11th March 1932]

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, with the increase in the number of Honorary Magistrates, the number of courts also will be proportionately increased? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No; the number of courts has not been increased? "

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Then, what is the object in increasing the number of Magistrates? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Because there are four courts sitting with more than one Magistrate as a bench and in other courts with one Magistrate as a bench. Very often these Magistrates who are honorary officers are absent and unless there is a pretty large number of these officers, it will not be possible to have these benches manned."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Of the present number, how many are women Honorary Magistrates, Sir? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Notice."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" So, you increase the work to justify the increase in the number of Magistrates? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The work, more or less, remains the same, but as I have already stated these Honorary Magistrates do not always attend office and so, in order that these Benches may always be sitting, the number of Honorary Magistrates has been increased."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, what is the extent of relief that is afforded by these Honorary Magistrates to the regular Presidency Magistrates? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I do not quite understand the drift of my hon. Friend's question."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" I am only asking for information? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I cannot give information unless I understand my hon. Friend's question."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" I just want to know whether the appointment of these Honorary Magistrates will lead to a reduction of the work of the Chief Presidency Magistrate and his colleagues? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" As a matter of fact, the appointment of these Honorary Magistrates is intended to give relief to the salaried Magistrates."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" In that case, will there be any reduction in the number of these salaried Magistrates? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Is it because the Honorary Magistrates are found to be inefficient that the number has to be increased? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No, Sir."

Control of Cinematographs

Constitution and functions of the Board of Film Censors in Madras.

·15 * 993 *Q.*—Mr. F. E. JAMES: Will the hon. the Home Member be
a. pleased to state—

(*a*) the constitution, present membership and functions of the Board of Film Censors in Madras;

(*b*) whether the Board of Censors has power to censor posters as well as films; and

(*c*) if not, whether any steps can be taken to prevent the display of degrading posters?

A.—(*a*) The Board is constituted of the following six members:—

(1) The Commissioner of Police } Ex-officio members.
(2) The Station Staff Officer }
(3) M.R.Ry. S. P. Arumainayagam Avargal, Head-master, St. Paul's High School, Vepery.
(4) Khan Sahib Dr. Jamaluddin Sahib Bahadur, Triplicane.
(5) M.R.Ry. Rao Bahadur P. Ranganatham Chetti Garu, Member, Corporation of Madras.
(6) The hon. Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti Garu, C.I.E.

Nos. (3) to (6) were appointed to be members for one year from the 18th August 1931. The Board is constituted for the purposes of examining and certifying films as suitable for public exhibition in the Madras Presidency.

(*b*) It has no power to censor posters.

(*c*) The suggestion will be considered.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know what the qualifications of these gentlemen are? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" There is no special qualification, but Government before making these appointments consult various authorities, for instance, the Commissioner of Police, the Director of Public Instruction and the President of the Corporation of Madras."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" May I request the Government, if possible, to include a lady member to the Board? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered next time when nominations are made."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know, Sir, as to who takes the initiative in suggesting names for membership on this Committee? Is it the Commissioner of Police, or do the Government themselves call upon the respective authorities to suggest names? "

11th March 1932]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"The third gentleman's name has been suggested by the Director of Public Instruction, the fourth by the Commissioner of Police, the fifth by the President of the Madras Corporation and the sixth was nominated by the Government themselves."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Sir, I understood the hon. the Home Member to say in reply to the question put by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan that recommendations are made by the Commissioner of Police and the Director of Public Instruction. May I know, Sir, if the President of the Corporation of Madras also is entitled to recommend names?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I may say for the information of the House that Mr. P. Ranganatham Chetti was recommended by the President of the Madras Corporation."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know from the hon. Member as to which President it is that recommended his name? This year's President, or the last?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Last year's President, Mr. P. T. Kumaraswami Chetti, Sir."

Control of Vehicles

Motor cars and motor accidents in the Presidency for the year ending 1931.

* 994 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of private motor cars, cars, lorries and buses plying for hire in Madras city and in each district of this Presidency at the end of 1931 (figures to be given separately);

(*b*) the number of car, lorry and bus accidents in Madras city and in each district of this Presidency in 1931; and

(*c*) the proportion in which the number of accidents in 1931 has increased or decreased as compared with 1930?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] is laid on the table.

(*c*) There is a decrease of 7·3 per cent.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether the fall in the number of accidents is only in the city or in the mufassal also?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Everywhere, Sir. The hon. Member will get the necessary information from the appendix of the printed answers."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether the staff of Police employed on traffic duty is the same even prior to 1930?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Yes, Sir."

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 76 infra.

[11th March 1932

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I enquire, Sir, whether it is not a fact that, on account of the decrease in the number of motor vehicles, the percentage of accidents has also decreased? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" I have already furnished the information in the appendix to the question."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I ask, Sir, whether it is because so many accidents are left undiscovered that the number has come down? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" No, Sir."

Measures for the control and regulation of motor traffic.

* 995 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: With reference to the answer given to my question No. 80 on 4th August 1931, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether Government have taken any further steps for the control and regulation of motor traffic?

A.—The Government have no reason to believe that the steps taken for the control and regulation of motor traffic are not sufficient.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, the number of constables that are now employed on traffic duty? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" I must ask for notice, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether the Government have considered it desirable to regulate the timings of motor buses plying for hire? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" The suggestion will be considered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, the annual expenditure on the Police employed in traffic regulation in the City of Madras? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" The information will be found in the Budget."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, considering that in the city of Calcutta such heavy establishments are not maintained, if there is any proposal with the Government for reducing the expenditure incurred on account of Police employed in the regulation of traffic as a measure of retrenchment? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" There is no such proposal before the Government."

[For further list of starred questions please see page 26 infra.]

11th March 1932]

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Local Self-Government

Constitution of taluk boards.

996 *Q.*—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received representations to the effect that if the Government were to go according to the strict letter of the law and constitute a taluk board for each taluk, great hardship will have to be encountered in view of the low economic depression of certain parts of the Province;

(*b*) whether the Government propose to safeguard the interests of such taluk boards;

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a list of taluk boards which were given such exceptional treatment;

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to state what the reasons are which have guided them in the matter of allowing them as they are;

(*e*) whether the Government have invariably accepted the recommendations submitted by some of the taluk boards that the policy that there should be a taluk board for each taluk need not be given effect to, so far as they are concerned; and

(*f*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table a list of the taluk boards proposed to be bifurcated ?

A.—(*a*) No general representation such as that referred to has been received. In individual cases, objections were received mainly on the ground that if a separate taluk board were constituted for each revenue taluk the new board would not be self-supporting.

(*b*) Each case is considered on its merits. In every case in which Government propose to form a new taluk board they satisfy themselves that the board could be made to pay its way.

(*c*) & (*d*) No final decision has yet been arrived at in regard to the splitting up of the areas of the Vizianagram and Bandar Taluk Boards. It is proposed to form a single taluk board for the area comprising the Aska and Surada taluks and to continue the existing jurisdiction of the Berhampur Taluk Board.

Surada is too small a taluk to maintain a taluk board of its own. Financial considerations do not permit of the constitution of a taluk board for each of the revenue taluks in the Berhampur local fund taluk. Government have not so far made any other exception.

(*e*) No. The recommendations were duly considered and the skeleton budgets received from the taluk boards examined before a decision was come to.

[11th March 1932

(f) A list[a] showing the names of the local fund taluks already ordered to be split up and another showing the names of those proposed to be split up are placed on the table.

Exemption of Viswabrahman pupils from the payment of school fees.

997 *Q.*—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolution passed at the meeting of the Viswakarman Young Men's Literary Association held recently in Rajahmundry, East Godavari district, requesting the Government to exempt the Viswabrahman pupils wholly from the payment of school fees in the Municipal as well as Boards' High Schools in this Presidency; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken to redress the grievances voiced forth in the said resolution?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No such resolution has been received.

Land Revenue Administration

Protest by the Pattukkottai Mirasidars' Association against the levy of water-cess.

998 *Q.*—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any steps have been taken by the Government or the Revenue Board to give effect to the resolutions of the Pattukkottai Taluk Mirasidars' Association that the rate of water-cess proposed to be levied in G.O. No. 1244, dated 8th June 1931, for irrigation of crops in non-deltaic parts with Cauvery water is unbearable and should be reduced;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that the mirasidars of the several villages in the taluk have sent mahazars to the Special Revenue Officer, Cauvery-Mettur Project, and the hon. the Revenue Member protesting against the levy of the proposed rate of water-cess; and if so, what action has been taken thereon;

(*c*) whether any steps have been taken to classify the lands in the non-deltaic area commanded by the Cauvery-Mettur Project according to the soil so as to fix the water-cess that can possibly be levied for irrigation with Cauvery waters;

(*d*) whether any steps have been taken to ascertain the probable additional yield of the lands of various qualities in the several villages by reason of irrigation with Cauvery water so as to arrive at the proper rate of water-cess that the mirasidar can pay;

(*e*) whether the mirasidars of non-deltaic tracts refuse to take the water if such a high rate of water-cess is levied;

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 76–77 infra.

11th March 1932]

(*f*) whether any orders have been passed by the Government in pursuance of G.O. No. 1244, dated 8th June 1931, referred to above;

(*g*) whether the Special Revenue Officer has been asked to take down written statements from mirasidars during 'ayacut hearing' mentioning the proposed rates of water-cess and whether any statements have so been taken;

(*h*) if so, whether the Government are aware that signatures are obtained thereto by the village officers without fully explaining the details contained there;

(*i*) if so, whether a copy of the statement so taken will be placed on the table;

(*j*) whether the mirasidars of several villages refused to sign such statements on account of the heavy rates proposed;

(*k*) whether the Revenue Officials have been directed by the Government to persuade the mirasidars to accept the proposed rates;

(*l*) whether the Government intend to consult this House before passing final orders giving effect to the rates proposed in G.O. No. 1244, dated 8th June 1931, aforesaid, or modifying the same; and

(*m*) whether the Government intend appointing a committee to enquire and report about the several representations made by the mirasidars by their resolutions, mahazars and deputation to the hon. the Revenue Member ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) All communications received by the Government on the subject have been forwarded to the Board of Revenue for report. The Board's report is awaited.

(*c*) No. The rate of water-cess does not depend upon the classification of the soil. It depends upon the cost of supplying water.

(*d*) No detailed examination has been made for this purpose; but the Government have considered the general nature of the soil of the area.

(*e*) A resolution to this effect has been communicated to the Government by the Pattukottai Taluk Mirasidars' Association.

(*f*) Not yet.

(*g*) & (*k*) The Government have directed that the Special officers should explain to the proprietors and ryots concerned the terms on which irrigation will be permitted, and should endeavour to obtain their concurrence. They have also suggested that it may be desirable to obtain written statements from proprietors and the more important ryots.

(*h*) & (*i*) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested in clause (*h*).

(*j*) The Government have not the information.

[11th March 1932

(*l*) On 18th August 1924, the Legislative Council adopted a resolution approving the proposal to execute the Cauvery-Mettur Project. The Council had then before it a financial forecast of the scheme showing the rates proposed. The estimates were subsequently revised and a revised financial forecast was supplied to the members of the Legislative Council on 30th April 1928. The rates proposed in G.O. No. 1244, Revenue, dated 8th June 1931, generally follow the rates mentioned in the revised forecast referred to above, and the slight modifications made have been explained in the notification appended to that Government Order. The draft rules were published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 16th June 1931. In these circumstances the Government do not propose to consult the House again.

(*m*) No.

[For further unstarred question please see page 32 infra.]

STARRED QUESTIONS

Government Press

Representation of the Adi-Dravidas on the establishment of the Government Press.

* 999 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. DHARMALINGAM PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of posts in each of the following grades in the Government Press:—

15—1—20, 20—2—30, 30—2—60, 60—4—100 and 100—5—150;

(*b*) how many posts in each of the above grades are held by the members of the Adi-Dravida community; and

(*c*) whether there are any belonging to the Adi-Dravida community who have passed the Government Technical Examination in proof-reading held in the year 1930, and whose promotion is held up under the Government Order restricting the filling up of permanent appointments that fall vacant on or after the 15th August 1931 owing to retrenchment ?

A.—(*a*)

Grade.	Number of posts.
RS.	
15—1—20.	279
20—2—30.	82
30—2—60.	61
60—4—100.	30
100—5—150.	4

11th March 1932]

(*b*)

Grade.	Number of posts held by the members of the Adi-Dravida community.
RS.	
15—1—20.	17
20—2—30.	1
30—2—60.	2
60—4—100.	Nil.
100—5—150.	Nil.

(*c*) Yes. One.

Medical Administration

Selection and appointment of House Surgeons and House Physicians in the current year.

* 1000 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of House Surgeons and the number of House Physicians selected and appointed in the current year;

(*b*) the number that receive allowances among these; and

(*c*) the considerations which determine the selection of the men to be given allowances?

A.—(*a*) 63.

(*b*) 31.

(*c*) Communal representation and suitability as judged by the academic record, character and qualifications of the applicants.

Education

Closure of the child-education section in the Lady Willingdon Training College.

* 1001 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that when Miss Gordon went on leave in 1930–31 the M.E.S. post of Kindergarten Lecturer was kept in abeyance and a S.E.S. post was created to carry on the work;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that when Miss Gordon went on leave the child-education section was closed after report to the Government;

(*c*) if so, for what reasons was the section closed;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that when Miss Barrie went on leave, the Director reported that her work will be carried on by the substitute proposed by him;

(*e*) if so, what the specific reasons are for closing the child-education section in the Lady Willingdon Training College;

(*f*) whether any report was made or sanction obtained by the department before closure;

(*g*) whether due notice of the closure of the child-education section in the said college was published for the benefit of the students; if not, why not;

(*h*) whether it is a fact that when Miss Barrie went on leave in 1926 the child-education section was closed and a S.E.S. post was created in lieu of the Kindergarten Lecturer's post;

(*i*) why the same procedure was not followed when Miss Barrie went on leave in 1930; and

(*j*) what the loss to Government is by such failure and who is responsible for the same and how is it going to be recovered?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) *It was first reported to the Government that the* child-education section was to be closed as no person was available with the necessary qualification to carry out the full duties attached to the post of Kindergarten Lecturer, Teachers'. College, Saidapet, held by Miss C. Gordon. But actually the Principal of the College managed to arrange for carrying on the work pending Miss Gordon's return from leave.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) The child-education section was closed for want of qualified lecturers to teach the subject. It was found that the substitute appointed in Miss Barrie's place could not carry on the portion of Miss Barrie's work relating to child education. The retention of the substitute was, however necessary, as a lecturer was required to impart instruction in pedagogy. In the Teachers' College, Saidapet, there are two *gazetted posts, whereas for pedagogy and child* education there is only one in the Lady Willingdon Training College. The child-education section in the latter college was reopened in July 1931 pending the return of Miss Barrie in the beginning of October.

(*f*) No.

(*g*) It is reported that all students were informed on admission.

(*h*) Yes.

(*i*) Miss Barrie was on leave for three months only in 1926, whereas in 1930–31 she was on about fifteen months' leave.

(*j*) Does not arise in view of the answer to clause (*e*).

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I enquire, Sir, with reference to answer to clause (*c*) if the Director had said before the appointment of the substitute for Miss Barrie that the substitute would be able to carry on the work and why was it and how was it that later on it was found that Miss Barrie's substitute could not carry on the work?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"The substitute appointed for Miss Barrie did not have the required qualifications but had some experience in that kind of work. It was thought that with the aid of her experience she would be able to

11th March 1932]

carry on the work; but in actual working it was found that her experience was not adequate and so she could not carry on the work."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I ask, Sir, then why her services were not dispensed with?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Her legitimate work was different; she was put to do this work when Miss Barrie went on leave and this work she was not expected to do."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Then, may I enquire, Sir, whether this duty was performed by her in addition to her normal duties?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"She was taken away from her normal duties and placed here."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Then, why, Sir, was not she reverted to her original place?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"There was other work there which she was found competent to perform."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know, Sir, who was doing that other work?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Miss Barrie herself was doing that work."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask the hon. Minister for Education what are the qualifications of Miss Gordon?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I must ask for notice of that question, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Does she possess any degree, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"If no sanction was obtained for the closure, how is it that it happened to be closed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I have already said that no sanction was really obtained for closing. Whether that was proper or improper, that is another matter."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask, Sir, if there are other persons who are better qualified than Miss Gordon and could fill her place more satisfactorily?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"No, Sir, as far as my information goes, there is nobody else."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know why no action was taken for having closed the section without the sanction of the Government?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is no helping it. The only objection was that the orders of Government were not obtained; but the closure itself could not be helped."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I enquire, Sir, as to whether there are not people in the department with English degrees in Kindergarten and other things who may be better ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I have already said that there is nobody else with better or even equal qualifications."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Will the hon. Minister make enquiries as to whether any better persons are available? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" No necessity has arisen for that question. I do not see any necessity for it."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the colour of this lady's gown? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not think, Sir, that the hon. President would want me to answer about the colour of a lady's gown."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know, Sir, who is really responsible for closure ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The closure was made by the Principal."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask, Sir, whether when the Director of Public Instruction said that she could well carry on the work of Miss Barrie, he had no proper idea as to the quality and volume of work expected of her and why is it that later on it was found that her experience was not enough to carry on the work she was expected to do? Why did he not assess her ability properly before he recommended that she should be able to perform her duties? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The Director of Public Instruction had some knowledge of her experience and with that it was thought she would be able to get on with her work; but afterwards it was found that her experience was not enough and she was really incompetent to do the work which Miss Barrie was doing."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Is it the policy of the Government that they should close certain sections without giving public notice to candidates if the incumbents who are in charge of it go on longer leave and it should be continued if the incumbents go on shorter leave? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is no question of a policy in a matter like that. Each case will be considered on its own merits."

11th March 1932]

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Does the Government think that it is satisfactory that candidates should be intimated on admission that such and such section is closed and will not be available? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I do not really understand the question."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" On a point of personal explanation, will you allow me to say, Sir, that I am sorry that the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise should be ignorant of the fact that in academic language when one wants to know the colour of an individual's gown, it means that he wants information as to what degree he or she possesses. When I asked the hon. Minister as to what the colour of the . . ."

The hon. the President:—" The hon. Member may have the required information through a supplementary question."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" May I ask the hon. the third Minister whether he is aware of the fact that in academic language 'colour of the gown' means academic distinctions or qualifications? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I do not think this information about the meaning of a phrase could be got from me alone. The hon. Member could get this information easily from other sources."

Fisheries

Abolition of the Fisheries Training Institute.

* 1002 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the question of abolishing the Fisheries Training Institute as a measure of economy;

(*b*) whether the Government have passed orders stopping further expansion of education among fishermen by providing special schools;

(*c*) whether the existing fisheries schools are staffed with trained teachers and there is scope for the employment of teachers now under training;

(*d*) whether the Government have examined the question if the teachers trained in the ordinary training schools could as well be appointed as teachers in the fisheries schools;

(*e*) whether the fisheries schools possess the necessary equipment to teach the fisheries technique;

(*f*) whether there is any one on the staff of the Fisheries Training Institute competent to teach the teachers undergoing training in the fisheries technique; and

(*g*) whether the Director of Public Instruction has been consulted on the necessity for maintaining a separate training institute for teachers to be employed in the fisheries schools?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

(c) Yes, with the exception of 22 posts which are held by persons not trained in the Institute. Some at any rate of these will be available for students now under training in the Institute.

(d) Yes. Such teachers may be employed for a period not exceeding six months.

(e) No. The question of providing the schools with necessary equipment is under the consideration of the Director of Fisheries.

(f) Yes. The Headmaster. Subsidiary technical instruction is also given by the Board and Fishery Instructors.

(g) No.

Fish oil and guano factories in South Kanara and Malabar.

* 1003 *Q.*—MR. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the number of fish oil and guano factories that are now working in South Kanara and in Malabar?

A.—Twenty-nine fish oil and guano factories worked in the Malabar district during the half-year ending 31st August 1931. No factories worked in South Kanara during this period. Later figures are not available.

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Land Revenue Administration

Conference of the ryotwari landholders of the Tanjore district in re the revision of kists for fasli 1341.

1004 *Q.*—MR. A. PI. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a copy of the resolutions of the conference of the ryotwari landholders of the Tanjore district held at Shiyali on 3rd January 1932 has been communicated to the Government and, if so, what action has been taken to revise the kists for fasli 1341 by reducing the rates by 50 per cent and adopting the pre-settlement rates, postponing the first instalment to March 1932;

(*b*) whether the Government are prepared to postpone the collection of the January kist to May instead of collecting it in February and March; and

(*c*) whether the Government are making any arrangements to have the railway freight for grains reduced?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The Government did not consider that there were adequate grounds for taking action in the manner suggested.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government are in correspondence with the Agent of the South Indian Railway in the matter.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE CONTINUANCE OF THE REDUCED RATE FOR MOTOR VEHICLES PLYING FOR HIRE.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move:

'*Under Standing Order No.* 19, *that the business of the Council be adjourned for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., the continuation for another year the reduced rate of Rs.* 7-8-0 *per seat for motor vehicles plying for hire under the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act* '."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Will the hon. Member tell me how it is urgent and is of recent occurrence."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" From the answer given by the hon. Minister it is clear that the Government is not going to continue the rate of Rs. 7-8-0 per seat for motor vehicles plying for hire which has been decided for this year and therefore it has become necessary for me to bring this motion because I am afraid that Government is likely to increase the rate from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 10. Hence this is a question of recent importance and the urgency of the matter is that from the 1st April, the rates automatically will be Rs. 10 instead of the existing rate. It is a matter of public importance, because it affects a very great number of people who are engaged in this trade."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, I quite remember that the answer I gave to the question is that the question of raising the rates is still under the consideration of the Government. They have not decided to increase it yet. It is not a question to be debated and voted upon unless such an action has been taken."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Any action that may be taken hereafter by the Government in this direction may be adverse. We have an opportunity through this motion to say how the increased rate will operate on the trade."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I do not think that this House can discuss any anticipated action of the Government. Under rule 12 of the Legislative Council Rules, a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Council must be for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance and one of the restrictions mentioned in rule 12 of the Council Rules is that it must be restricted to a 'specific matter of recent occurrence.' This motion does not relate to any matter of recent occurrence at all, but practically recommends to the Government that a particular policy which they have been following for the last one year should be continued for another year. This recommendation could have been made at any time during the course of the year. Further, under Rule 12 a motion for the adjournment of the business of the Council must not anticipate a matter with reference to which a notice of motion has been previously given. I find that notice has been given of a motion under Demand XXVIII to reduce that grant for the

purpose of discussing this subject-matter. Apart from the fact that during the course of the discussion of demands for grants, no adjournment motion should be allowed except in the case of a grave emergency or for the purpose of checking a recent grievance which, if unchecked, might become irremediable, I hold that this motion does not come within the restriction of rule 12 of the Council Rules ; I therefore disallow it."

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE—RESERVED.

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move :

' *That on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 19,05,200 *under Demand I—Land Revenue—Reserved* '."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move :

' *That the allotment of Rs.* 19,05,200 *for Land Revenue—Reserved, be reduced by Rs. 100, to discuss the question of the Land Revenue policy of the Government* '.

" Sir, the discussion of the Land Revenue policy of the Government is a recurring phenomenon. Every year hon. Members get up in their places and criticize the policy of the Government and ask among other things that instead of the whole question of Land Revenue being under the executive orders, it should be brought under the control of the Legislative Council.

1-30 p.m. " We on this side of the House and hon. Members on the other side have frequently pointed out the Government's unsympathetic policy in the matter of land revenue assessments, and we have also pointed out that Government in fixing settlement rates, and particularly in resettlement, have given no heed to the sufferings of the ryots and have taken no action, even when defects and mistakes in calculating the costs of cultivation, I mean, in arriving at the net half on which the land revenue is based have been pointed out. In fact, Sir, the land revenue figure budgeted for this year is in itself an indication of Government's unsympathetic attitude. For, contrary to ordinary expectations, when it may be expected that the peculiar economic condition of the Presidency this year might lead to a fall in land revenue, you see in the Budget the amount exceeding the figure budgeted, for last year, and the figure of 750 lakhs excludes a sum of 10 lakhs, which is also collected along with the land revenue as cesses and it scarcely comes out of the land.

" I shall now, Sir, make a few remarks concerning the mistakes that have been perpetrated by Government in fixing land revenue assessments and in coming to the conclusions that have been come to with reference to the resettlement, particularly, in the Kistna and the

11th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

Godavaris. My remarks may in the main refer to the resettlement in those districts but many of them are of wide application. Firstly, may I point out that the Government's policy is really to treat land revenue as rent and not as a tax? The Government of Madras have frequently stated that it is the land that pays the assessment and not the cultivator. In other words, it has no direct concern with the economic condition of the ryot but that it considers that out of land it is entitled to extract a certain sum of money as rent. Now, Sir, I do not think I will be using very strong language, if I characterize this policy as absolutely inhuman. Government do profess indeed to consider the economic position of the people in fixing the land revenue. But I shall show, that although this House and various bodies that have been concerned with this question have been pointing out the many sources of serious error the Government settlement and resettlement parties have made in arriving at settlement and resettlement rates, the Government have turned a deaf ear to this cry. Although we on this side of the House have repeatedly drawn the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member to several points on this behalf, he has not given us an answer to them. And consequently to-day, Sir, many of those difficulties and defects remain unheeded and unremedied. I shall refer to a few points to prove the correctness of my statement. Government, Sir, do profess to make an allowance for the vicissitudes of the seasons. But if we take Government's pronouncements that they do make an allowance and that a satisfactory allowance for the maintenance of the ryot, then may I ask them, what do they do with reference to the famines and seasons of scarcity which come once in series of years, when the ryot gets nothing out of the land? He loses his cultivation expenses and the costs of the labour, and the most that he gets is a remission of the assessment. If you take a ryot's earnings in a series of years, you must take not only his profits but also his losses. What I ask Government is, do they make any allowance for the serious losses incurred by the ryot in an year of absolute drought and famine? The Government of India went into this question and in one of its pronouncements it has stated that it did recognize that the ryot was put to very serious losses on account of famine. And it stated also that it was able to give nothing by way of relief for these losses, because even a total remission of the assessment would not be sufficient to meet these losses. On the other hand, it laid down the policy that the general level of the assessment should be so fixed that the ryot may be able to make up in a series of years a certain margin of profit that might make up to some extent for these serious losses. Now, Sir, what is the allowance Government makes in its calculation of the ryot's expenses for a case like this?

"Then, Sir, take the question of current fallows. In each of the three districts I have mentioned, and I am sure it is the case in many other districts, there are very large areas of current fallows on which assessment is charged year after year, although ryots practically get nothing out of them. Why the ryot is forced to keep this large area fallow is because the fodder-supply is altogether insufficient to meet the

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [11th March 1932

requirements of fodder for his cattle. And yet, Sir, Government makes no allowance for current fallows. As I said, the ryot is forced to keep these fallows on account of the fact that he has got to make up something for feeding his cattle. Among other things, Sir, the Members of this House, and particularly the Economic Enquiry Committee, have pointed out that in settlement and resettlement calculations for cultivation expenses Government makes no allowance for the cost of fodder for cattle; and it has been found actually by examination (and the Government has accepted it, as it will be found in the remarks of the Board of Revenue on the question of resettlement) that the present fodder-supply varies from one-third to one-half of the ryot's requirements. So, Sir, how is the ryot going to make up the other two-thirds, if the Government is not going to make any allowance for fodder? Similar remarks apply to the case of manure also and the Board of Revenue has admitted that in those areas the available supply varies from one-fifth to one-tenth of the requirements. Government has been appealed to with regard to this times without number, and yet this point remains still unanswered; and I take it that it is unanswerable. The Economic Enquiry Committee pointed out besides the serious losses the ryots incurred on account of insects, pests and rates. The losses in any one particular year often come to 25 per cent of the entire produce. This, the Economic Enquiry Committee pointed out, but the Government has not given a satisfactory reply. It, however, says that it is covered by their usual allowance of 5 to 10 per cent.

"Then, Sir, the Government of India, in one of its pronouncements, has said that in the matter of agricultural improvements the ryot is entitled to some consideration in having a lower assessment. But the Government of Madras excludes a very large class of improvements from the term "agricultural improvements." I am referring to cases like this. Suppose an irrigation system is brought into being, and the ryot has to spend a very large sum of money in rendering his dry lands fit for cultivation under the irrigation system; or there may be cases of low lands as obtain in the deltas, where the ryots have to put up bunds to prevent the submersion by fresh or salt water as in the Godavari delta. Under such cases a considerable sum of money has to be expended by the ryot, and this is certainly an item of capital expenditure. And how is he to be compensated for these? I think, Sir, the demand of this House is reasonable that capital expenditure of this sort, on account of which Government is able to collect revenue from the ryot, should be taken into consideration in assessing the land revenue and that in such cases the assessment should be fixed at a lower rate.

"Then, Sir, Government has admitted the existence of serious defects in the irrigation and drainage system. I am just now referring to the Godavari delta and my remarks may apply to other systems also. While admitting that there are serious defects, Government has said that it has got a scheme of improvements and that it is going to provide for these works and improvements so as to enable the ryot to surmount the difficulties that he now feels either on account of insufficiency

11th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

of water or on account of damages by floods or drainage. Sir, what do we find in the Budget under this item? Government has provided a small sum for putting up shutters in the Godavari Anicut. And strange to say, it has also provided for considerable expansion of irrigation in the Godavari delta. What will be the net result of this arrangement? The ryot has been clamouring for an improvement in his irrigation supply, and Government is increasing the height of the anicut shutters and is proceeding to expand the irrigation delta. And apart from these, many promises of improvements Government have given to the ryots, and consequent on this large hopes have been raised in their minds. Now Government has, as a matter of fact, failed to carry out its promises in a large measure. Of course, it is pleading that the present financial stringency does not permit of funds being allotted for these necessary improvements. But, Sir, may I ask, is it fair when you admit the difficulties, when you promised to remedy them but did not carry them out, to bring these resettlement rates into force, and then while you are collecting this money, is it fair for you to plead that you have no money to carry out these improvements?

"That is what always happens when resettlement rates are brought 11 a.m. into force. The work that ought to have been attended to when the resettlement rates of 1892 were brought into force remains yet to be carried out. While I am about it, may I point out, Sir, that in the recent communiqué of Government concerning the Tanjore delta I find that it is fighting shy of the most vital work required for ameliorating the irrigation work of the Tanjore delta, viz., the solution of the problem of upland drainage? I find that the Government is going to be content with the scheme already settled for diverting the drainage above the Grand Anicut and it is going to do practically nothing for the large amount of water below the Grand Anicut. The experience of last year shows the seriousness of the situation. There is ample evidence from the catastrophies of the previous floods. After all this experience and sufferings of the ryots during the many floods that have devastated the Tanjore delta, Government now come forward to say that they are going to do nothing to solve the problems of the Vennar drainage. It is certainly going to aggravate the situation even with regard to the right bank of the Paminiar. What one would have expected at the least is to proceed with the low level schemes instead of with the high level schemes. It will bring floods to an unprecedented extent. I warn the Government that if they persist in this measure they will soon find themselves in a Court of law. I believe the ryots are already contemplating action against the Government and I warn the Government to reconsider the situation and examine the question of the disposal of the upland drainage in the Vennar delta in a sympathetic spirit.

"Now, Sir, proceeding with the question of resettlement in Kistna and Godavari with which I was dealing, may I point out that one of the most important points on which resettlement is based is the question of prices? First of all, may I point out that the price figures published by Government and on which they base the resettlements

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [11th March 1932

are certainly very unreliable and Government have admitted their unreliability? For, to begin with, these prices are the averages of producers' and consumers' prices. Take any district—there are rice producing areas and there are non-rice producing areas. What the Government does is to take the prices prevailing all over the district in particular localities. If you take, for instance, the Kistna district, the uplands produce practically no rice and they are purchasers whereas the low lands are the producers. What is the meaning of averaging the prices obtaining in the whole district? It certainly gives you a very misleading figure of prices. As it has been pointed out on other occasions, these price figures are not at all properly checked by any reliable authority. There are some clerks in the taluk offices who prepare them, the tahsildar sends it to the Collector and the Collector passes it on to the Revenue Board. Except when famine is threatened—I am practically quoting the very high authority—I don't think the tahsildar checks these figures. These figures form the basis on which the resettlement is based. Apart from the unreliability of these figures what has Government done in arriving at commutation prices. For instance, it has taken the figures of prices for a series of years when the prices were unusually high. In fact Government's whole system of resettlement does not seem to contemplate the fall in prices at all. What is the meaning, Sir, of averaging the prices of a series of years when there are boom prices and trying to apply the derived figure to a series of subsequent years when prices have fallen phenominally low? At least, Sir, to my common sense it is a stupendous mistake and I feel that Government can really have no answer to this. When prices were at Rs. 300 and Rs. 400 per garisa, those prices are included for getting the average commutation. But now the prices are neighbouring Rs. 140 a garisa. To persist in this is iniquitous and I should have thought that Government should have been convinced by the justice of the claims for sympathetic consideration raised by Members on all sides of the House that Government should have considered our recommendations and that Government should have seen the reasonableness of our contentions and that at least they should do nothing more than postponing the resettlements. But as to what has happened I shall refer a little later.

"Coming to the other point that Government has omitted in their calculation of cultivation expenses I may mention, for instance, that no allowance is made for cattle disease and cattle mortality. Government possess figures of cattle mortality; it can find out what it means to the ryot. A pair of cattle, for instance, costs Rs. 300. Supposing the ryot loses one he loses Rs. 150. Either he must go to the co-operative society which gives short term loans to the ryot which is of no good to him, or he must go to the money-lender and borrow at exhorbitant rates. His margin of profit is so small that he can never recoup it. Certainly in the districts I am referring to, the cattle mortality is something stupendous. We have repeated it on the floor of the House several times but so far Government have made no efforts to seriously consider the question. What it means in money loss to the ryot is something which

11th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

would melt the hardest heart. Let me say from experience that ryots are simply ruined on account of the enormous cattle mortality. Conditions in villages make it impossible to keep the cattle throughout the year in the villages with the result that they are driven out to far off tracts in the Nizam's territories and for every hundred that is driven even fifty do not return. We have furnished Government with figures of the indebtedness of the ryot and they have actually scoffed at us. The Government officer who criticized our report has actually said that these figures of indebtedness are proofs of the ryot's prosperity, of the fact of his ability to borrow. As a matter of fact he is utilizing his reserve to borrow. I think, Sir, I can think of nothing more cynical than a remark of this sort. It is typical of the attitude of the Government with reference to this question of land revenue policy.

" Then, Sir, to return to the point that Government have been making ample allowances to the ryot, why has not the Government the courage to place before the public the statement of figures on which it proceeds in assessing the rates of resettlement rates? The Committee went into the question and had the courage to put forward many of the faults of the Government. I wish the Government had had enough courage to put forward their schedule of cultivation expenses. It proceeds upon figures which are treated as confidential. The settlement officers go to the villages and prepare schedules with definite set of instructions to omit the cost of fodder, to omit the cost of manure, to omit the cost due to cattle mortality, to omit, for instance, the cost of maintenance of carts and other implements, to omit village mamuls and I can go on multiplying the list of omissions. We have pointed these out on the floor of the House several times but so far we have received no reply. May I again ask, Sir, why the Government have not got the courage to place the schedule of cultivation expenses before the public which is a matter of life and death to the ryot? I will challenge the Government to give a statement like that on the basis of which they proceed. I am sure the statement of cultivation expenses would be torn to pieces and would never be accepted by anybody of reasonable men.

" There is another defect, Sir, in this land revenue system. Everything is based on averages, average rainfall, average irrigation supplies, average prices and so on and so forth. May I ask how you can proceed on a system of averages? It is something like telling a man who wants to go by motor car from here to Tanjore when he has got to cross the Palar, the average depth of which is 2 inches whereas in actual crossing there are huge shoals about the middle of the river and deep pits in which possibly several cars would go down and not come up again. These averages are precarious. It is a matter of surprise to me that Government has the courage to calculate on average things and apply it to the whole district.

" It is no wonder, Sir, that while some people may be benefited by the present system of assessment there are large numbers, as pointed out by the Committee, who are hit hard and absolutely ruined. It is

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [11th March 1932

certainly the heaviest form of taxation in this presidency; of course, the Government does not consider land revenue as a tax but as rent; but view it as you will, compare it with any other tax in this Presidency, compare it with income-tax, you will find that it is ruinously heavy. Land-tax takes half of the net revenue from land. If a ryot gets Rs. 50 the Government comes in to take Rs. 25 out of it, a thing unheard of anywhere else in the world. In all other countries in the world, this antiquated system has been replaced by other more reasonable and humane systems, but our Government takes refuge in the fact that it is merely carrying on the system that obtained here before it came into existence. That, with reference to modern ideals, is no consolation at all. Under your present system, you are grinding the ryot, ruining the people and it is time that you should examine the matter and come to the relief of the suffering ryot population. The Joint Parliamentary Committee, at the time the Montford Reforms were inaugurated, recommended that land revenue should be brought under the control of the Legislature, but so far our Government has refused to take any action in that direction.

"Coming to the question of actual enforcement of the resettlement rates in the Godavaris and Kistna districts, this House passed resolutions and adjournment motions were carried and representations were made to the Revenue Member that these rates shall not be brought into force. Promises were given in this House that the matter would be very carefully considered and that the resettlement rates would not be brought into force unless the Government was perfectly satisfied that the ryot was in a position to pay. Now what has happened? My friend, the Revenue Member, did go on a tour, a Member of the Revenue Board went there, and His Excellency the Governor went there; and we were told in this House that the resettlement rates would not be brought into force unless there was a material increase in the prices of food-grains. I ask the Government whether it has satisfied itself that there has been such a material increase in the prices as to justify the enforcement of the enhanced rates? What becomes of the commutation rates on which you based your figures? The prices of food-grains are the same as obtained 30 years ago. How are you justified in enforcing the resettlement rates under those conditions? It is no use multiplying instances. We in this House have cried ourselves hoarse, not only with reference to the question of resettlement in the Godavaris but also with reference to the general policy of settlements and resettlements and the policy concerning the land revenue administration. Government have turned a deaf ear to those representations. I consider it a very serious matter that there is at present turmoil and unrest in this presidency, and may I point out that the trouble is due more to economic than to political causes? You shut your eyes to these things and the result is misery is turned into discontent; discontent might become seditious and sedition might develop into revolution. You are talking of constitutional remedies, you are promising liberties to the people; these things may or may not materialize in the manner we expect, but you can at least do this, do justice to the ryot population. They have proved their case to the hilt and you have not answered and can never answer them. I may tell Government that it will never be sorry for adopting a sympathetic

policy, for adopting the policy of conciliation and sympathy that I advise it to follow and, if it does so, it will not only enhance the prosperity of the ryot, but also the good name of the Government by contributing to the happiness and prosperity of the people and helping in the removal of discontent and dissatisfaction."

* Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Mr. President, Sir, after the very strong and unassailable case that has been made out against the Government's revenue policy by the hon. the Floor Leader of the Opposition, I see there is not much left for me to say; but I wish to point out that the Government has been asked time after time to make the Members of this House responsible for their land revenue policy, and has asked them to take them into confidence, but the Government has come forward with rather very weak excuses for not bringing in a Revenue Bill or preparing a definite revenue policy for this Province. They are concerned merely with collecting certain amount of money, whether the people are in a position to pay or not. Their primary consideration is to see that the expenses of the State are met somehow; and the first source of revenue being land revenue, they want to squeeze out as much money from the ryot as possible not caring whether he is able to pay or not. The Government is oblivious to its own duties with regard to the ryot himself. It does not give him the necessary encouragement and facilities in order to enable him to pay the revenue that it expects from him. But it goes to him at the time of collection of kists, and gets its money irrespective of the fact whether he is able to pay or not. Then, there is the sword of Damocles hanging over the ryot's head—I mean the resettlement. Whether there is need for resettlement or not, whether there is prosperity in the country or not, resettlement must come and the taxes must be enhanced. That is how the Government carries on its land revenue policy. It is more or less like Shylock and wants to have its pound of flesh, no matter whether the ryot is able to pay or not. It does not even help him in the matter of minor irrigation works; on the other hand it spends large sums on doubtful projects. Under the system of diarchy we expected that a certain amount of power would be given to the representatives of the people. On the other hand they have no voice with regard to even the fundamentals, as regards the rates which ought to be fixed in different parts of the Province. We are here merely to make a show of Parliament and tell the world that the Government of the country is carried on with the consent of the people. The Government taxes as it likes and the people are forced to pay even if they are not in a position to pay. Let us take the example of the recent resettlement that was carried on in the Godavaris and the Kistna districts. The Government in spite of the Economic Enquiry Report and the very good arguments that were advanced for stopping the resettlement process and in the teeth of the vote of this House passed an order that the rates must be enhanced. The Revenue Member, the Board Member in charge of Revenue and His Excellency the Governor went there, but did they really meet the people from whom these taxes are collected? They saw only such people as the Collector chose to present to them, and these people were not in a position to give them the exact state of affairs. So

on the information gathered from these people, they came to the decision that the ryots are rich enough to pay the amount of enhanced tax. That is the conclusion arrived at from the enquiry by the three Gentlemen. What is it that the Government has done with regard to the agitation against resettlement and enhancement of rates that was carried on from one end of the district to the other? The Government wanted to suppress it somehow, and it was called political agitation. On the other hand it was purely an economic agitation against a particular act. The Government wanted to suppress it under the name of political agitation because it did not want to hear the appeals made by the ryots against these enhanced rates. There is the Police report that the agitation was for the purpose of refusing payment of rent. As a matter of fact, prominent members of the different associations came forward with a statement that they never asked the people not to pay rent, but that what they were doing was that they were collecting opinions with regard to this matter in order to present it to Government. When such was the case, it was really wrong on the part of the Government to call it a no-rent campaign and take steps to suppress it. And then, Sir, the Government depended entirely on Police reports. The Police have been working under the instructions of the Government of Madras or the instructions of the Government of India or of the Government of England; the Government wanted to create a cause for suppressing the national movement."

Mr. C. Basu Dev:—" I rise to a point of order ; the hon. Member is discussing the Police administration under this Grant."

* The hon. the President:—" The hon. Member will wait and hear."

2-15 p.m. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" My hon. Friend is always anxious to avoid anything which is said against the Government.

" Mr. President, Sir, I was saying, whether it was on account of the instructions received from the Government of India or from this Government that preparations were being made for suppressing a national movement instead of hearing the grievances of the ryots. The Government called it a political agitation. When cases were launched against the leaders of ryots, we know what happened. They were prosecuted and sent to jails as political suspects and as political agitators. These people when they were tried in courts made statements to the effect that they never asked the ryots to refuse payment of taxes. They never said anything of that kind. They would not say it. But even then the Government did not release them, but prosecuted and sentenced them for long periods of imprisonment. Government have confused the two things, viz., the political agitation and this economic agitation on account of the inability of the people to pay the enhanced taxes. *Government have themselves* created an occasion for the civil disobedience movement. They have been responsible for the powerful way in which the civil disobedience movement is carried on in some of the districts of this Province, because they have created discontent in the

11th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

minds of a very large number of ryots. To-day the Government say that it was very easy for them to collect taxes. They say that if the tax collector merely went to the doors of the ryots, the taxes readily came without any difficulty. On the other hand, Sir, we know the manner in which the taxes are collected. Subdivisional Officers go to these places with a posse of constables who are ever ready to beat the people and the Police actually terrorize them and taxes are collected, as if it were, at the point of the bayonet. No collections are made without making the people sell everything they have. Not only do they sell their paddy, but they sell their jewels and other things in order to see that they are not molested. It is under such circumstances the taxes are collected. It is not by their free will that taxes are collected from the people. Sir, I ask, is this the proper policy which a Government should adopt ? Will any Government which has an interest in the welfare of their people adopt such a policy and treat the people in the manner in which they are now treating them ? Not only this, Government have also been imprisoning people who expound the cause of ryots that are not able to pay taxes. If a public enquiry were to be held regarding the cruelties which are inflicted upon the poor ryots and the manner in which the Subdivisional Officers and the Police are carrying on their campaign of collection of taxes, a big account may be written. That is the present state of affairs.

" Sir, now we are on the eve of what is called Provincial Autonomy. I do not know whether, even under that Provincial Autonomy, it will be possible for the representatives of the people to have a voice in the fixing of the rates of land revenue assessment in this Province. Any Provincial autonomy which does not give the right to the representatives of the people to fix the land revenue rates is, I am sure, a hollow Provincial Autonomy."

* Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" Sir, year after year it has been pointed out in this House that the incidence of land tax in this Province is comparatively higher than what it is in other Provinces of this country. Seven hundred and fifty-five lakhs out of the total revenue of Rs. 1,593 lakhs is expected to be derived from land in the coming year and the bulk of the agriculturists who pay this revenue are poor and heavily involved in debt. The burden of land revenue presses hard particularly on the small landholder. The Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee has pointed out that there are about 35 lakhs of small holdings in this Province paying an assessment of Rs. 10 or less a year. The Madras Government has paid no heed to the recommendation made by the Taxation Enquiry Committee to give relief to this class of small holders by standardizing the rate of assessment at a comparatively low figure not exceeding 25 per cent of the annual value. The Committee have pointed out that a further share of the profits of the landholder may be taken in the shape of local taxation. This sort of taxation will be less unpopular than any increase of land revenue, because it would be a tax levied for local purposes by local bodies composed mostly of representatives of landed interests. As regards the large holders of land, they have suggested that an income-tax might be levied on agricultural income.

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [11th March 1932

This is what they do in most of the progressive countries of Europe. The Punjab Government seems to have adopted the proposal of the Taxation Enquiry Committee and fixed the maximum rate of assessment at 25 per cent. I believe, Sir, that in the United Provinces, they have restricted the maximum to 40 per cent of the net assets. In some of the Provinces they have lengthened the period between resettlements from 30 to 40 years, but here in Madras it continues to be 30 years. The Madras Government continues to claim half the net profit as its share.

"Sir, there has been a fall in the prices of food-grains since 1925. There has been a definite drop in the price of paddy, particularly since last year. The ryots will be put to very great difficulty in paying their assessment this time. Most ryots are compelled to sell soon after harvest a large portion of their paddy at a low price to pay their kist. They cannot wait for favourable prices. Many others are driven to the money-lender to get the amount required for paying their dues. This year it will be very difficult for ryots to get loans. At a time of distress like this the Government must come to the rescue of the ryots by granting liberal remissions, by suspension of revenues wherever necessary and also by giving them more time for payment of their kists. Instead of doing this, Government seem to have budgeted for an additional income of one and a half lakhs of rupees from land revenue in the coming year. The Government seem to have made no allowance for short collections in the coming year. They seem to be determined to collect the enhanced resettlement rates in Kistna, Godavari and Malabar.

"I wish to know whether the Government have made any enquiry regarding the fall in the price of paddy. Is it due to the extensions of cultivable area in this Province, or to the larger importation of rice from outside? If it is due to the importation of rice from Burma or Japan, Government will have to see whether they can prohibit the importation of rice from those places. If it is due to the increased production of rice in this Province, the Government must see whether people cannot be made to grow more profitable crops in rotation with paddy. I hope the Government will pay their attention to all these matters and see what they could do to give relief and help to the ryots at a time of distress like this."

* Rao Bahadur T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, I do not wish to take up the time of the House by covering the same ground which has already been covered by my friends here. But I feel it my duty to voice the opinion of the public that in regard to the policy of resettlement, there are no two opinions in this House. Everybody is agreed that the policy of Government with regard to resettlement is certainly iniquitous and the way in which it is administered is much more iniquitous. There is a cry everywhere for reduction of the resettlement rates. One of the arguments advanced on behalf of Government is that, resettlement being carried on once in 30 years and the ryots having taken advantage of the rise in prices in favourable years, they are not entitled to a reduction even though prices may have fallen during the currency of the settlement.

11th March 1932] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

They say they have no concern with the present low level of prices ; they say that the ryots must pay the rate fixed at the resettlement—nothing less than that—since he has not given more during favourable years. I am not here to speak of the inhuman character of that argument, but if that argument is open to the Government, it is also equally open to the ryots to say that during the currency of the resettlement period the Government ought not to enhance the rates. I shall now narrate a danger that is threatening our district. A month or two ago draft rules were published in the Gazette providing for the enhancement of the levy of water-cess in regard to lands irrigated under three important channels, viz., Aryan channel, Peru Valai and Srirangam Nattu Vaikal. Of course that notification provides for a further notification to follow in regard to fields irrigated by other channels in the district. Therefore there is no doubt that the Government intend revising the rates which have been fixed at the time of resettlement which was about the year 1925 and to provide for the enhancement of the water-rate. By the way I may mention that the rates of assessment have been notified as Rs. 10 for single crop, Rs. 7-8-0 for a second crop and Rs. 17-8-0 for dufusal, i.e., crops which stand for more than six months. As if this was not sufficient, the rules also provide for the reclassification of the sources. The sources which have been classified as 2 and 3 at the time of the resettlement have been proposed to be raised to first class. Again they also reserve to themselves the right which they do not possess at present, viz., to stop or to discontinue or to alter the mode of supply of water to these fields. Sir, these provisions, as I submitted, define clearly the attitude of the Government ; the Government desire to enhance the rates. These rates are far in excess of the rates now prevailing. I submit this kind of attitude on the part of the Government is not at all just.

" We are faced with a huge economic depression and a fall in prices. 1[illegible]
We are clamouring for a reduction in the present resettlement rates. P[illegible]
But it is just now that the Government have thought it fit to make rules for fleecing higher rates from us. Even in point of law I believe the Government will not be within their powers in trying to give effect to their proposals. I am sorry I am not able to quote the exact decision, but I am sure there is a very recent decision of the Madras High Court to the effect that once the rates are settled by the Government they have no power to alter them during the currency of the settlement period. Of course there may be a loophole in the notification of the resettlement clause vesting some residuary power in the Government and the Government may take shelter under that clause and say: we have got power according to the resettlement clause to modify the rates. But what I ask the Government is whether, at a time of unprecedented fall in prices like this, they have really made a thorough enquiry into the vital question of whether the ryot can afford to pay the higher rates. What return have they promised the ryots for the higher rates asked of them ? I find no promise of improved irrigation or any other kind of facilities which may be put forward as a justification for the enhanced rates. All of a sudden they come and say: we are going to enhance the water-rates. I do not

at all understand the motive which has impelled the Government to take this step which I can only characterize as a most ill-advised one. I entreat them not to give effect to their proposals at a time like this. Otherwise, I am sure they will have to face many suits. Already the ryots are organizing themselves and trying to give a reply to the Government's proposals in the manner in which it is open to them. As their representative in this Council I feel it my duty to place before the Government their difficulties and entreat them not to give effect to these proposals.

" The next request that I have to make on behalf of the poor ryots is that the time for the payment of kist should be postponed. In our district the first instalment of kist is payable at the beginning of December, just at a time when the crop is not ripe for harvest. *There is a strong wish on the part of the ryots that the first* instalment should be postponed to the middle of January, a time when the harvest would have been finished. Also the number of instalments should be increased to at least four if not six. This was one of the specific resolutions passed the other day at a meeting of the District Agricultural Association. I do not think there will be any difficulty on the part of the Government in doing this, for this is not a question of lowering the rates or of asking the Government to give up anything that is due to them. It is only a kind of adjustment which would give relief to the ryots. The practice of paying the kist in four instalments and collecting the first instalment in January prevails in the neighbouring districts and I entreat the hon. the Revenue Member to take steps to introduce this system in my district also. I also request him to increase the number of instalments to six."

* Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai:—" Mr. President, Sir, in supporting the motion brought forward by my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, I wish to focus the attention of the Government on the present position of the ryot throughout the Presidency and particularly in the districts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly which grow the largest quantity of paddy. I say, Sir, that their condition is deplorable and the policy of the Government, which has not moved its little finger so far towards ameliorating their conditions, deserves severe criticism.

" In spite of the repeated demands Government has not thought fit to bring land revenue settlement under statutory legislation. Without regard to the condition of the ryot and without taking the vote of this House, the Government have been piling taxes on the already overburdened ryot and we have now reached a crisis. It has been stated that the policy of the Government has always been to leave, in fixing the settlement rates, a sufficient margin to protect the cultivators' interests. The strict theory of settlement by which the net profits of cultivation are divided equally between the Government and the ryot is also stated to have undergone very considerable modifications in favour of the cultivator. But how does it work out in practice? Settlement rates have been fixed by a process of commutation on the basis of the average of ryots' prices for twenty years preceding the resettlement. But, when

11th March 1932] [Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai]

the ruling prices go down considerably below the commutation rates and when there is no possibility of the prices going up in the near future, the settlement rates are considered to be inflexible and the Government does not care to revise the assessment or forego a portion of what has been fixed already. The present economic condition of the landlord and the ryot is very deplorable and they are unable to meet even their ordinary obligations, much less the payment of tax. Settlement of land revenue is based on average commutation rates for over a period of 30 years, i.e., an estimate of the average money value of the expected yield of the land during the period in which the settlement is in operation. While such expectation is not realized in the actual prevailing prices, it is but proper that the assessment should be revised and brought down so as not to be unbearable. The hon. the Revenue Member while replying to the general discussion on the floor of this House on 29th February 1932 said: 'that to say that the present prices were lower than that of last commutation rates was not correct.' This statement is evidently based on a misapprehension of the notification appearing in the extraordinary supplement to the *Tanjore District Gazette* for February. The Collector of Tanjore has therein carefully omitted the first half of the year which is the only period to be taken into account while arriving at the ryots' prices, when he has to sell his commodities to pay the kist. Every one is aware that the price of agricultural produce has been very low—far lower than the commutation rates—for some time past and even at such low prices no market can be found and large quantities remain undisposed of. Besides this, the unexpected devastation by the floods of the years 1930 and 1931 and absence of water in the irrigation canals in proper seasons have added immeasurably to the difficulties of the ryots. Both the landlord and the ryot are oppressed by the economic depression and both are in the iron grip of the money-lenders. The present land revenue system is the main cause of their indebtedness. Taxation has been increasing without regard to the profit earned by the ryot. The number of land sales for arrears of land revenue is increasing by leaps and bounds. The welfare of the Government is bound up with the welfare of the ryot but the fact is not realized by the Government. Times out of number the necessity of the Government foregoing a substantial portion of the land revenue or at any rate the necessity of levying kists for 1932 at rates less than those prevailing before the resettlement, have been brought to the notice of the Government by the landholders and the ryots. Nothing appears to have been done till now in that direction. The enhanced rates ought not to be collected until the prices mount up. The conditions in the districts necessitate not only that the enhanced rates should not be collected, but a total revision should be made and the land tax reduced so as to allow at least a fair margin to the cultivator for all his trouble and relieve him from the clutches of the money-lender, the court of law, and finally the Official Receiver. Till such revision is made all collections of land revenue should be stopped at once. Not only the price of produce has decreased, but the value of the land also has fallen on account of the scarcity of money. Ryots have lost credit both on account of the low commodity prices and the low land values. There is a limit to the burden

which the ryot can bear. If that limit is passed without anybody asking the ryot not to pay taxes, he would himself refuse to pay for the simple reason that he is absolutely impoverished and helpless.

"The hon. the Revenue Member characterized Tanjore district as rich. It was so, but has ceased to be so for some time past. Simply because that district contains a large area of wet lands and shows a green and pleasant atmosphere in certain months of the year, it certainly does not mean that the ryot or the landholder in that district is rich and can afford to pay whatever the Government demands of him. I invite an enquiry into the economic condition of almost every landholder of that district and I am sure that the finding would be that the majority are indebted and that the indebtedness is due to no other cause than this heavy burden of taxation. It is the established practice of the Government to cause a survey to be made into the economic condition of the area proposed to be brought under resettlement. It behoves the Government and it is only just that such an enquiry should be directed when conditions point to the imperative necessity of a revision and a reduction of assessment. The Madras Presidency is the most highly taxed of all the Provinces, and the Tanjore district is one that is taxed most. On the other hand, the soil of the Cauvery Delta has considerably deteriorated and the annual influx of silt to maintain the fertility of the soil has now been cut off, or at any rate diminished, by the Mysore Reservoir.

"The expenses of administration have risen from 8·85 crores in 1918–19 to 18·31 crores in 1930–31. I say, Sir, that this abnormal rise in the expenses should be drastically cut down and the taxation should be reduced to enable the ryot to meet both ends meet. A reduction of land tax by at least 25 per cent, if not more, is absolutely and immediately necessary; else, the situation is sure to become unbearable and unmanageable even by the Government. The Government should further help the ryot by affording him facilities to get proper seeds and to market his commodities advantageously. The attitude of the Government towards the ryot should be sympathetic and when once a ryot is contented he will be the bulwark of any stable Government. I appeal to the Government and to this House to view the matter in a spirit of sympathy and save the ryots from complete annihilation.

* Mr. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu:—"Mr. President, Sir, I want to confine myself to the policy of the Government with regard to the enhanced assessment rates in the three districts of East Godavari, West Godavari and Kistna. The condition of the ryots in those districts is really very deplorable. Even the previous assessment rates are very oppressive from the standpoint of the present economic condition. The Economic Enquiry Committee also came to the same conclusion. They based their recommendations on the prices then obtaining. They went from village to village and collected materials from all the leading ryots. After a close and first-hand study of the question on the spot they came to certain conclusions which, I am sure, must be correct. But I am sorry that the Government have treated their recommendations with scant courtesy. But worse than this, ever since the Committee reported, there has been a further fall in prices. Of course there may

11th March 1932] [Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu]

occasionally be a flutter in the market now and then, but it subsides as suddenly as it comes. In the last speech I delivered in this House I gave some figures taken from the reports of the Indian Chamber of Commerce. Those figures cannot but be correct, but there is a great disparity between those figures and the figures presented by the Government. I do not think the Chamber of Commerce can be wrong. The hon. the Revenue Member and a Member of the Board of Revenue toured these districts. Many leading men met them and represented the matter to them. They thought that their representations appealed to their sympathetic hearts and concluded that the hon. the Revenue Member would be sympathetic enough not to enforce the enhanced rates. But their expectations were sorely belied. I do not know what has happened to their mentality. The ryot is overburdened already. Perhaps the Government think they can go on oppressing the ryot with ever-increasing burdens because they have the power behind them and can make the ryot obey their orders, however inhuman they be. I do not know how the Government, by adopting this kind of policy towards the ryots, can hope to win their affections. They say they are a very benign Government, their rule is a very beneficent rule and so on.

"But when representations are made to them regarding the difficulties of the people, we meet with cold stone walls unresponsive to our appeals; we come across an icy aloofness. Unless these barriers are pulled down and the channel of sympathy is allowed to flow to the people, I am sure the people will never love this Government.

"Of course there was some talk about the starting of the no-rent campaign. The ryots are a lot of law-abiding people; they are always loyal to the Government; they do not know what rebellion is; they are not like the Russian peasants and workers who will say 'let us burn all the bridges and ladders of the past and raise the red flag of rebellion.' Our ryots always say 'let us be true to our Government; let us honour our King, Country and God.' For all that, the ryot is crushed to the ground.

"I thank the hon. the Revenue Member for his extreme kindness in granting remission to the lanka ryots, and I request him to be kind to the ryots of the Polavaram Island project. It is a land newly brought under cultivation. On account of very heavy floods, many of the bunds were washed away and the ryots were put to heavy losses; they are not able to meet even the cultivation expenses. I myself am a ryot and I know all the details about the Polavaram Island project. I request the hon. the Revenue Member to view their cases very sympathetically and grant them remissions in all the deserving cases. With these few words I support the motion."

* Mr. P. C. Moses:—"Mr. President, Sir, the first question I wish to raise is the policy of the Government in regard to the assignment of lands to the depressed classes. The rules obtaining at present governing such assignments are that the lands which are valued at Rs. 200 and below shall be given to the depressed classes free of price and the lands which are worth more than Rs. 200 are to be sold for market

[Mr. P. C. Moses] [11th March 1932

value, the cost price to be paid in easy instalments. These earnest efforts of the Government to ameliorate the condition of the depressed classes must be recognized and deeply appreciated. But I wish to point out that these concessions do not go far to help the depressed classes. The land that is worth Rs. 200 is not very productive and the improvements which are necessary to make the land a profitable source of income, are far beyond the financial capacity of the ordinary member of the depressed classes. Valuable lands also require repairs and improvements and one who buys them shall have to, in one and the same year, meet the expenses of cultivation and of repairs and at the same time pay land taxes and a part of the cost of the land. There are several instances in which the members of depressed classes after paying large amount of money had to give up because they could not pay further. I suggest the value limit of lands which can be given free be raised from Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 and that valuable lands be given for half the market value. If the Government were to say that they have no money and that they cannot help these people, I have no answer to give. But the poverty of the hungry masses and their craving for food are my only brief and—if the welfare of the people is the primary consideration of the Government—I request the Government to extend their hand of help further in the matter of improving the condition of *the depressed classes.*

" Next, Sir, I wish to refer to the tanks under the control of the taluk boards. Some of these tanks have not been kept in repairs for a number of years; they have ceased to be tanks long ago; although they are passing as such until this day, some of them have not been kept in repairs and they have become very shallow. The level of the tank-bed is not higher than that of the adjoining patta lands and the tanks are no longer supplying water to the people or to the cattle. I went to a village called Ponnekallu, 8 miles from Guntur. The extent of the tank there is about 50 miles. There is not even the semblance of a tank; there is only one bund on one side of the tank; it is full of prickly-pears and there is not even a drop of water. Whenever the members of the depressed classes applied for grant of these lands and whenever the Collector addressed the taluk boards whether they would be willing to relinquish their rights over tank, they promise to repair the tank. They are influenced by the caste ryots—who raise several objections—but nothing has been done so far. I have given only one instance; there are several instances like this. If the Government were to say that specific cases should be brought to the notice of the Collectors, so that the latter may deal with them, I say that that procedure is a very slow process and nothing useful will be done. I request that the Government should take the initiative in the matter and they should themselves press for the conversion of such tanks which are no longer fit to be used as reservoirs of water; the Government would thereby get large income by the sale of the lands and also by way of land tax.

" Before I sit down I wish to say a few words about the encroachments made by the depressed classes on waste lands: they improved

these lands and no objection was raised then; these encroachments have been made in several instances more than three years ago; these people have not yet received pattas. I request the hon. the Revenue Member to issue instructions for giving pattas to the cultivators so that they may not be troubled by the karnams or other subordinate officers."

* Mr. G. R. Premayya:—"Mr. President, Sir, there is economic depression in almost every country in the world. Our India being an agricultural country, the depression has affected the ryot population very considerably. The price of the land held by the ryot and the prices of grains are abnormally low. While there is an unexpected decline on the credit side, the Government are enhancing the land tax according to the rule. It is therefore quite natural that the ryots should turn to the Government for help and it is but right that the Government should come forward and help the ryots. The cultivators of the land are the backbone of the Government in India; they are the financiers of the Government. Such being the case, the Government must find out ways and means to protect the cultivators. The duty of every Government in the whole world is to protect its ryots. Some hon. Members have said on the floor of the House that the hon. the Revenue Member would be well advised if he postpones payment of the land tax or at least collect it in four, five or six instalments. The invariable reply given by the hon. the Revenue Member was 'no.' That 'no' fell on the ryot population as a thunderbolt from the blue, because they were expecting a favourable reply from him. Nowadays money is very scarce. The ryots do not get good price for their grains; Marwadis and local money-lenders are supposed to be life-blood suckers of the ryots. Therefore the ryots feel it very hard to pay the taxes. Over and above these ordinary taxes, there are some more cesses to be paid, the land-cess, road-cess, education-cess and in some districts railway-cess. All these are legitimate cesses. But the ryots are paying, knowingly or unknowingly, some illegal taxes; they are called jamabandi expenses. Revenue Inspectors and jamabandi clerks compel the karnams and munsifs to collect money for the jamabandi expenses. The karnams and the village munsifs, not realizing the difficulties of the ryots, collect money from these people to meet the jamabandi expenses. I have personally witnessed the village karnams and munsifs struggling hard to satisfy the jamabandi officials; this is an extra burden on the ryots; such a custom should be put an end to immediately; this custom prevails all over the Province and it is gaining ground from year to year. I would therefore strongly request the hon. the Revenue Member to issue strict orders to all the heads of the districts and to all their subordinates to stop this satanic custom.

"I have a few observations to make with regard to the granting of lands. There was a time when some demarcated lands were reserved for the poor people. Before they could take full advantage of the Government Order passed in favour of the poor another Government Order was passed to the effect that the lands, assessed waste, should be sold in public auction. Selling of land by public auction is not at all beneficial to the poor. Some assessed waste lands were granted to

the societies of the depressed classes. The Government keep very careful records of the number of acres of land granted to the depressed classes. But may I ask the Government what kind of land was granted to the depressed classes? In my tour throughout some districts, I found that the land that was granted to the depressed classes was either sandy, saline, alkaline or marshy or that land was good for nothing. Here and there some land was granted to societies and it is a disafforested area. This land gave some profit to the grantees. As worthless lands were granted to the poor people, it made their condition worse. I think the Government would be well advised if they followed the method of reservation in respect of the grant of hundreds and hundreds of acres for the societies of the depressed classes. A block of 200 to 500 acres may be reserved and poor people may be asked to go and live in these reserved lands. Such reservations may be made on the lines followed for Red Indians in the United States of America.

p.m. "There are labour colonies in Belgium, Holland, Germany and Denmark. If any one is sent to those countries and if he is required to have an intimate knowledge of any of those colonies, I think he would make a wonderful Labour Commissioner for the labouring classes of our country.

"As regards minor irrigation, I think I must mention three or four facts before I close my speech. Repairs to canals which are silted up are not made year after year. Such being the case, the waste water which is supposed to run out of outlet is backed up and water becomes stagnant, consequently standing crops die. One thing more I have to mention. In sandy soils all along the sea coast, the ayacuts of the canals will be sandy. These supply channels will feed the crops. The ryots are charged water-tax therefor; but when it comes to a question of repairing, the Government have nothing to do with it. The ryots have to bear the cost; they have to incur large sums of money for the repair of those canals. When the Government charges them water-tax, why not the Government supervise the canals? why not the Government repair the canals, I ask? I believe that the Government reply will be that the canals are dug in Government land. I see the wisdom of such a reply; but when the Government charges tax for water, why not the Government do the repairing? This is a real grievance of the ryots who have been living all along the sea coast. So, I say, Sir, that the depressed classes will be helped a great deal if they are made to live on reservations; and it is the Government's duty to protect the cultivators' rights and help them in these times of sore need."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"To-day being Friday, the House will adjourn now and re-assemble at 3 o'clock."

After Lunch (3 p.m.)

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, the report on Land Revenue and Settlement gives a glowing account of the administration of Land Revenue in this Presidency. No defects have been disclosed there, and it appears that the taluk and village registers are

11th March 1932] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

kept satisfactorily, that conferences are held by the Revenue Divisional Officers during the jamabandi season when the grievances of the ryots are being discussed with a view to the redress of the same. This is one side of the case; but the other side of the case is not given in the report. I feel it my duty to make a reference to some of the evils of Revenue administration in this Presidency.

"As we are all aware, Sir, the lowest official in the Revenue administration is the village karnam. It is he who sends his report to the higher officials week after week, month after month, and year after year. It is upon these reports that most of the Revenue Department's orders are based. The village karnam records that certain waste lands have been occupied by somebody and he also records that some lands have been cultivated by somebody or other. The higher officials—such as the tahsildar or the head of the district—believe these reports and do not find out whether they are true or not. They do not care to scrutinize the reports of the village officials. The result is that the ryots have been penalized for what was not done by them. They have been asked to pay penalty for unauthorized use of water or occupation of land when they have not actually done so at all. In cases meriting action on the part of the Government, the penalty imposed is out of all proportion to the action which is attributed to the ryots.

"It also happens that the village karnam records in the village registers that some lands are in the possession of men other than the real owners. He also records in the registers sent to the taluk office that men other than the actual heirs are heirs of some deceased owners. All these things mean some complicated transfer proceedings. In the course of the proceedings, the evidence of the karnam is taken and he gives evidence on either side, with the result that the higher officials are in great difficulty to decide who is the real owner. All these things are due to the fact that much weight is given to the accounts sent by the village officials.

"Further the village karnam encourages and allows certain ryots to use water for dry lands or single crop wet lands, and then reports against them as having used Government water. The result is that the ryots are asked to pay much higher penalty than the actual circumstances of the case warrant. These are all matters which take place in all the districts; but the ryots only feel the actual difficulties. They make appeals to the Revenue officials who pay scant attention to them.

"Another difficulty is that referred to by my hon. Friend, Mr. Premayya, viz., that at the time the jamabandi takes place, the ryots are asked to pay some fees. That may not be the actual case. But the pattas which have to be handed over to the pattadars are not handed over to them then and there. They are taken by the karnam to his house, and he distributes them in return for some remuneration. If such remuneration is not paid, the karnam revenges upon those who refuse the same.

"There is also another difficulty the ryots are subjected to. When there is plenty of water at a particular season, the ryots apply to the

[Mr. M. Devadasan] [11th March 1932

Revenue officials for permission to use Government water. The applications are kept in abeyance for months together. The poor ryots take Government water and cultivate their land in anticipation of sanction, but at the time of jamabandi, they are highly penalized. The applications which are sent by the ryots are not disposed of in time, and there is unusual delay and slackness on the part of the Revenue officials in the disposal of the applications.

"Yet another peculiar difficulty to which my people are subjected is this. The depressed classes have been occupying certain village sites for generations. The village officials record the village sites in the village register as private nathams belonging to some particular landlord who lives in the neighbourhood. The result is that the landlord sues the poor people for eviction and this goes on for years together, to the grave disappointment and annoyance of the depressed classes. If the village officials do not record in the register that these village-sites are private nathams, then these difficulties will not arise at all.

"Within the short time at my disposal, I want to refer to some of the difficulties and losses which the ryots in Tinnevelly have recently experienced on account of heavy floods. The Revenue officials of the district did not take immediate action to make up for the loss which the ryots had sustained. From the answer to an interpellation I learned that properties belonging both to the Government and to the people were lost to the extent of Rs. 6 lakhs. The banks of the river and tanks breached in several places and it will take two years for restoring the banks. The Revenue officials are already overburdened with other duties, like magisterial duties, etc., and they do not pay proper attention to the needs of the ryots. As a result, we find that much discontent is caused among the ryots. If the officials do not care for the interests of the people and leave them to their fate, then, there is every likelihood of discontent spreading in the minds of the ryots. It is high time that the Government should take proper steps to rectify the defects in the system.

"Before closing my speech, I wish to refer to one other aspect of Land Revenue administration. My friends, Mr. Premayya and Mr. Moses, referred to that. Certain lands have been assigned to the depressed classes and they are cultivating or making use of them. But some of the lands so assigned to the depressed classes are marked as valuable lands long after occupation by the depressed classes and they have been asked to pay heavy value for those lands. Even after the grant of pattas, I hear people have been asked to pay price for the lands on pain of eviction and this works great hardship on the depressed classes. That is why, Sir, I appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to see that the lands which have been already assigned in favour of the depressed classes are not resumed by the Government and that the depressed classes are not asked to pay any value for the lands which they have already been asked to occupy.

"One more word, Sir, and I shall finish. The ryots are able to cultivate only a portion of a survey number, and they could not cultivate the whole extent of the survey number for want of sufficient water

11th March 1932] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

facilities. But they are assessed to pay the full revenue for the entire survey field. This point was urged upon the attention of the Government last year and also in the past. But the Government have not paid sufficient heed to it. I now appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to see that only the portion actually taking the water is made to bear the burden of the tax and that the land which is not cultivated is not burdened with taxation.

"With these words, Sir, I close my speech."

* Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig:—"Mr. President, Sir, I find from the Budget that half of the income of the Province is derived from land revenue, and so it is worth while, I think, to see whether the system by which this revenue is derived is sound. Year after year, Sir, it has been urged on the attention of the Government that the land revenue system obtaining in this Presidency is not only unsound and inequitable, but it is an anachronism and a relic of the past, based perhaps on the erroneous conception of the right of the Government to share the profits of the ryot as landlord. Whatever may be the justification for it, Sir, in the past, it is high time that we changed our angle of vision and take the more enlightened view that taxation is contribution made by the people to the State, in order to meet the expenditure of the State.

"My friend, Mr. Shetty, has rightly referred to the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee and its recommendations, and I am entirely in agreement with him in accusing the Government for not having adopted the recommendations of that Committee.

"Not only did this Committee, but also the Committee appointed by this House, have condemned the land revenue policy of the Government. So also, the representatives of the people, whether they belong to this side of the House or that side, have condemned the land revenue policy of the Government, not only with regard to resettlement operations but also with regard to the general policy of the revenue system. In spite of all this the Government do not seem to have moved in the matter and it is therefore worth our while to see why the Government are not moving in the matter."

* The hon. the President:—"Order, order. I wish to observe here that the Demand will be put to vote at 3-30 p.m. and the hon. the Revenue Member will require at least 15 minutes for his reply. I therefore advise the hon. Member to close his remarks in a minute."

* Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig:—"I have submitted, Sir, that it is worth our while to inquire into the causes why the Government, in spite of the fact that the Indian Taxation Committee and the Committee appointed by this House as also individual representatives of the people, have all condemned the land revenue system followed by the Government, they have not moved in the matter. The representations made by the people were found to be futile. I, therefore, well-nigh suspect that the reason for the Government not moving in the matter is probably due to the fact that land revenue is a Reserved subject and that the

[Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig] [11th March 1932

people have no hold over the decisions taken by the Government in regard to Reserved subjects. But it is very difficult for us to believe, whether the Government are administering a Reserved subject or a Transferred subject, why they should be so deaf to the recommendations of the people. It may be said, Sir, that as the Government is not confident that in time of need money will be forthcoming as in England where income-tax has poured in at a time of crisis, therefore the Government are not willing to retrace their steps or revise the land revenue system. That only proves—and it is a strong argument in our favour—why we want that Provincial Autonomy must be granted soon, so that the people might realize that it is their own Government and if they are paying any money to Government, they might feel that they are paying to their own Government and the Government will then be amenable to the representatives of the people."

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, and other hon. Members again criticised the land revenue policy of the Government on various grounds. I am afraid they have rather confused the issue, I think, by talking at one time about settlement and referring at the same time to resettlement. There is of course a considerable difference between the two. Resettlement proposals are merely based upon the rise in the value of the produce and the object is to get some share to the Government of the unearned increase in the value of the produce, without taxing in any way the ryots' improvements which may have affected the classification of the soil. The nature of the soil and the costs of cultivation, etc., are taken into consideration at the time of an original settlement. We do not take these things into consideration at the time of resettlement except in so far as may be necessary to enable the Government to make sure that the ryot has not been unduly oppressed by the rates in force hitherto and that he is able to bear the enhanced taxation proposed. My hon. Friend (Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar) stated that the cultivation expenses of the ryot are not taken into account at the time of resettlement. That is true in a sense. We consider the various conditions under which the ryot cultivates his land, but we do not work them out in such details, as is done at the time of the original settlement. My hon. Friend states that the information on this point is treated as confidential, but I cannot see that they are in any way confidential. For example, if we take the Tanjore resettlement proposals which were published, in the paragraph relating to cultivation expenses on wet lands, we find reference is made to the cultivation expenses allowed for at the time of the original settlement. Figures are also given there.

" In an original settlement, a certain provision is made for vicissitudes of season and in addition to that, we provide in the Standing Orders, published by the Board of Revenue under the instructions of Government, for remissions of land revenue in certain cases owing to failure of crop due to seasonal conditions. Under those provisions remissions are ordinarily granted only in the case of wet lands, but in

11th March 1932] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

special cases remissions are granted in the case of dry lands also. Sometimes, we grant further remission than the rules permit, as has been done, for instance, in the case of lands damaged by floods in the Tanjore delta a year or so ago.

"My hon. Friend stated that current fallows are charged for, year after year, and that the consequence was that the cattle suffer for want of sufficient fodder. Allowance is made for unproductive portions of fields, such as ridges, channels, small rocks, etc., but if the ryot deliberately leaves his field uncultivated year after year and if he wishes to use it as a grazing ground, there seems to be no reason why the State should be deprived of the tax which would be normally derived from such land if it were cultivated. If, on the other hand, the ryot cultivates that land with fodder crop, he may probably get more fodder than by using it as a grazing ground for his cattle.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend is not quite accurate in saying that no allowance is made for manure. I may state that that is definitely provided for as one of the items of cultivation expenses. He also referred to the mortality among cattle and the heavy expenses which the ryot is put to on that account. In the original settlement, it is definitely laid down that the points to be considered in the matter of cultivation expenses include an enquiry into the number of years for which the cattle, ploughs and other agricultural implements will last. As a matter of actual practice, I believe, settlement officers usually take into consideration the rate of hire of cattle. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: What about manure ?) Manure also is allowed for. In the statement relating to cultivation expenses of the ryot, other items such as the cost of ploughing, weeding, sowing, manuring, reaping, threshing, etc., are also taken into consideration; the rules provide for that. My hon. Friend reminds me that he said that no allowance is made for fodder. Straw is usually regarded as a set off against the item 'feed of bullocks', but where cattle are fed on grain and the allowance of straw is not considered sufficient, the item is specially provided for. If my hon. Friend brings to the notice of Government cases in which rules relating to this are not being properly followed, action will be taken at the time the settlement report comes up for criticism.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Shetty suggested that we should reduce the amount of assessment and make it 25 per cent of the yield and that the period between one settlement and another should be raised from 30 to 40 years. As regards the first suggestion, I do not think we take actually as much as 25 per cent of the produce, as so many allowances are made and we have restricted enhancement at resettlement to a maximum of 18¾ per cent. It would be a revolutionary change in our land revenue policy if we raise the period of a settlement from 30 to 40 years.

"That brings me to the criticism which has been again brought against the Government, that in spite of the recommendation of the Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament, this Government have done nothing to introduce a Land Revenue Bill. I have met that charge before in this House. For the past 10 or 12 years, the question of

[Sir Archibald Campbell] [11th March 1932

introducing a Bill has been very carefully and thoroughly considered in consultation with this House and with the Government of India. I do not think I need go over the same ground that I covered a year ago. As I said last year, we are now on the verge of further Constitutional Reforms and it seems to me desirable that such important measures as a radical change in our land revenue system should be undertaken when you have Provincial Autonomy and you have a responsible Minister in charge of Land Revenue.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend referred to the Tanjore resettlement and brought a charge against the Government that certain works which have been promised in 1892 have not yet been carried out. I am not quite sure to what specific works he refers. I am not aware of any definite promise made in 1892 that certain works would be carried out, but it seems that at that time the Government considered the amount spent upon irrigation works and drainage in the district in the past had been inadequate. During the 25 years ending 1918–19 the total expenditure on the Cauvery and Vennar divisions together under the heads 'Capital' and 'Major Works' and 'Major Works'—'Extensions and Improvements' amounted to 27 lakhs and a quarter, or an average annual expenditure of over a lakh of rupees. Under the head 'Major Works—Maintenance and Repairs', the total expenditure for the 24 years ending with 1918–19 was 23½ lakhs, which is equivalent to an average expenditure of a lakh of rupees. So, the total for these two amounted to over two lakhs a year; the average expenditure on new works and repairs was 67 thousand rupees in the ten years previous to the settlement of 1892. I think, Sir, that this shows that considerable effort has been made by Government to improve matters during the period between the settlement of 1892 and the last resettlement. We are not relaxing our efforts even at the present time. . . ."

3-30 p.m. * The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Order, order, I will now put the cut motion to the vote of the House. The question is

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 19,05,200 *for Land Revenue be reduced by Rs.* 100'."

The motion was declared lost.

A poll was demanded, and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
2. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
3. Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
4. ,, R. M. Palat.
5. ,, D. V. Narasimhaswami.
6. ,, K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu.
7. ,, Mahboob Ali Baig.
8. Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo.
9. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
10. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
11. Mr. Yakub Hasan
12. ,, K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
13. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
14. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
15. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
16. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
17. Rao Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
18. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
19. ,, A. B. Shetty.
20. ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
21. ,, U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
22. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
23. ,, C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
24. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
25. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
26. Mr. G. Sriramulu.

11th March 1932]

Noes.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
2. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
3. ,, Sir Archibald Campbell.
4. ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
5. ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
6. ,, Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
7. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham.
8. ,, J. A. Thorne.
9. ,, C. E. Jones.
10. ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
11. ,, S. H. Slater.
12. ,, E. Conran Smith.
13. ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
14. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
15. Mr. M. Devadasan.
16. ,, N. Siva Raj.
17. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
18. Mr. P. C. Moses.
19. ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
20. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
21. The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
22. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
23. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
24. ,, A. W. Hutton.
25. Capt. W. E. Winter.
26. Mr. F. E. James.
27. ,, C. Basu Dev.
28. Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
29. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.
30. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
31. Mr. G. R. Premayya.

Neutrals.

1. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
2. Mr. M. Vedachala Mudaliyar.

Ayes 26. *Noes* 31. *Neutrals* 2.

The motion was lost.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND II—EXCISE—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

> ' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 31,05,600 *under Demand II—Excise—Transferred* '."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, I move, Sir,

> ' *that the Demand under* " *Excise—Transferred* "—*of Rupees* 31,05,600 *be reduced by Rs.* 100, *to discuss the Excise policy of the Government.*'

" The object with which I am moving this motion is to elicit from the Government their policy in this matter, particularly with reference to the question of prohibition. When this question was raised during the general discussion of the Budget, the hon. Minister said that he could not speak on prohibition just then; I feel sure that he will now come out with a clear and definite statement of what his policy is at the present moment. Sir, since the historic resolution regarding prohibition was passed in this Council, all Ministers had referred to this question. But except on one occasion we had spectacles of Ministers fencing with the issue; they have not faced the issue; they never came to this House

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [11th March 1932

with any definite statement whether they are going to introduce prohibition or not. They left us in doubt as to what their policy was. I shall now put a definite question to the hon. the Excise Minister and I believe the time is very opportune for him to give us a definite answer. Last year we were told that the old old experiment of partial prohibition was being continued, that rationing was being tried somewhere in the Vizagapatam area and that in addition to all that they were carrying on the usual propaganda for prohibition. My hon. Friend, the Minister, told us with a lot of circumlocution, with a lot of words, the meaning of which left us in very serious doubt as to his intentions, that he should first of all prepare the country for prohibition before any measures of real prohibition were introduced. Now, Sir, the propaganda is gone and I congratulate the Government on the courage with which they have abolished this propaganda board, the expenditure on which was entirely uncalled for and which would only give the Minister the opportunity of postponing the day of introducing real prohibition and telling us that the country was not prepared for total prohibition. Every member of the House knows that no country in the world is more prepared for prohibition to-day than India, particularly the Madras Presidency. Everyone knows that the three religions of this Presidency and practically all communities look upon drink as a sin and in any case as a disreputable thing. There may be caste people who do drink. But if one sees how stealthily they go to the shops, after dark with a cloth over their heads to cover their faces so as to make it impossible for people to identify them, one will see the normal stigma that attaches to it. It is looked upon with shame in this country. I repeat, Sir, that there is no excuse for any Minister telling us that he must prepare the country for prohibition before he undertook any measure of prohibition at all. But, Sir, my hon. Friend, the Minister, will rise in his place and say, 'What can I do at a time of great financial strain; the revenue of the Province has gone down by so many lakhs (A voice: 2 crores); we want money for carrying on the administration and we cannot just now propose any measure of prohibition which will have the effect of further reducing the Excise revenue.' On the other hand, I consider the present moment very opportune for taking up prohibition. The revenue has gone down and I do not think it possible that the Excise revenue will go up to the old level. This Government, like other Governments similarly situated, have been forced to adopt measures of retrenchment and have adjusted their expenditure to their revenues and as the Budget shows they have succeeded in balancing their Budget. I do not commit myself upon the correctness of all the measures of retrenchment that have been adopted. I think it does not lie in the mouth of any Minister now to come to us and say that he will not keep the Excise revenue at its present level and that he will allow it to rise. Sir, why should it be allowed to rise? If the Excise revenue shows any signs of rising up, it should be utilized towards prohibition and for increased expenditure towards the furtherance of prohibition. I have already said that all religions of this Presidency are committed to the doctrine of prohibition. I cannot imagine any Minister who has sincere convictions coming to this House and saying that

11th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

measures of total prohibition are difficult to be taken. May I point out to him that he might start prohibition at least as soon as the Excise revenue shows any signs of rising up?

"And, Sir, if really they want more money for prohibition there are ways by which they can obtain it and thus still keep to the principles of Excise administration that have always guided this Government, namely, the principle of minimum consumption and maximum revenue. I wish to give a few suggestions as to the way this can be done. I hope they would appeal to my friend as being suitable and as helpful, if he has got a mind to do so, to enable him to bring in measures of prohibition. I would ask my friend to consider whether the time has not come when he can go in for a further increase in the duty on arrack and also on tree-tax. If he only compares the rates of this Presidency with those obtaining in Bombay he will find that we are far behind Bombay. I am sure the law of Diminishing Return would not operate if he increases the duty on arrack and the tree-tax. Then, Sir, I find the consumption of local beer has increased. It seems to me that here is a legitimate case for increase of duty, if not as a measure of increasing revenue, at least to reduce consumption. Then, Sir, I find that consumption of locally manufactured beer is going up. There ought to be an increase possibly as a means of curtailing the duty on local beer, the licence fees on imported beer being also increased suitably. Then, Sir, I would suggest also that the duty on opium and ganja be similarly increased. I find, for instance, that while the opium revenue has shown a distinct fall, the licence fees on ganja has been showing a tendency to go up. Obviously it is a case where Government should increase the duty on ganja. We do not want to bring into vogue the consumption of opium or ganja, while ostensibly the hon. Minister is engaged—I do not know it is really so—in decreasing the consumption of toddy and arrack. But, Sir, I think it is possible, by increasing the duties, to get a very considerable increase in the excise revenue.

"Then dealing with foreign liquor, I find the Government is still sticking to the old fixed fee system of licence. I think, Sir, the system is most inequitable. Really to be fair to the tax-payer and to the public the fee should depend upon the consumption of foreign liquor. Those firms dealing with foreign liquor should maintain accounts of the quantity of liquor sold and the fee should be charged on the actual quantity of liquor sold. If only Government adopt this system, they will see their revenue from this source mounting up by leaps and bounds.

"The last point I wish to touch upon is the abolition of foreign liquor taverns. As a matter of fact I see very little income from this. I do not think financially the Government will be losing much if they adopt this proposal. I do not personally object to the foreign liquor being sold in sealed bottles. I think nothing will be lost if they close foreign liquor taverns, as a measure of prohibition, as a measure of temperance and as a measure of 'drink Indian liquor' if I may so put it. (Laughter.) It seems to me this is a case eminently fitted for the consideration of any Swadeshi-minded Minister.

"Now, Sir, concerning establishment: I find Government is proposing to reduce the Excise establishment by one Deputy Commissioner, 6 Inspectors and 2 Assistant or Sub-Inspectors of Excise. I am going in by the provisions as set out in the Budget. I suppose we all agree that some sort of retrenchment may be necessary; but it seems to me, Sir, with this reduction the hon. Minister will say: 'How can I carry on the movement of Prohibition when I have been forced to reduce the establishment?' I wonder if the hon. Minister did really object to the reduction of the establishment. Only if he had a mind to push through prohibition, he should have fought strenuously against the reduction of establishment. Personally I think that apart from a Deputy Commissioner the work can be carried on efficiently with the other staff. So I don't think we ought to reduce the number of Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors; and, after all, the sum that would be saved is quite inconsiderable. I hope the hon. Minister will not bring forward the plea of reduced establishment as an answer for not taking up prohibition in one or two districts, e.g., Salem and Nellore. My friends in the Nilgiris, Mr. Davis, Mr. Ari Gowder and Mr. Muniswami Pillai have been coming before this House frequently to have prohibition in the Nilgiris. Let Government select one or two districts at least; and if they want money, they can easily find it by adopting the measures I have recommended. If the hon. Minister has a will to do so, he certainly has a way before him; and I hope, Sir, now at least he will come before this House courageously and say that he is still a firm believer in prohibition and that he is prepared to satisfy the almost unanimous opinion expressed by this House that prohibition is a measure that is practicable, and that it is called for immediately to be put into execution. Let us have prohibition at least in one district. I hope my friend, the hon. Minister will give us a clear reply in answer to these demands, and I hope it will be satisfactory to all sections of this House."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, I share the feelings expresssed by Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar as to whether the hon. Minister intends to do anything at all in this matter. I daresay he will plead that he is subject to many limitations restraining his scope for action—some of them perhaps real and some imaginary. Granting all these things, I wish to know from him what he means to do in the matter of assisting people in their honest endeavours to abstain from using intoxicants. I want to illustrate my point with reference to a particular case, with facts of which he himself is fully familiar. Sir, in the district of Anantapur, I would like to know from him, whether or not an intensive propaganda had been carried on, not merely recently with the aid of the Government grant but for a good many years before that, by the people themselves with their own organizations, to educate the people to abstain from using intoxicants and whether, as a result of that, innumerable petitions had been sent to Government, and deputations waited on influential officers of Government that certain groups of villages at least should be declared dry areas and liquor should not be made available there for the use of people. I wish to know from

11th March 1932] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

him whether even the District Collector after careful inquiry was not fully satisfied with the genuineness of the demands of the people and of their honest anxiety to put a stop to drink. I want to know whether the people did not wait on him in deputation, whether he also was not satisfied with the desire of the people and whether he did not tell them that their request would meet with his sympathetic and favourable consideration at his hands. I wish to know from him further what was the result of the excise sales in that district? Did not successive sales take place? And is it not a fact that for many shops no bidders came forward? Then, did he not try to get offers by private negotiations, and may I know whether even there, he succeeded? When he found these efforts futile in some cases, what did he do then, Sir? I wish to know, when the last shop in that district was sold, how many months was it after the Abkari year had begun? I wish to know what my friend, the hon. Minister, means, by the methods adopted by him, by the policy he has pursued in the district of Anantapur. Does he or does he not mean to encourage people, at least in their own efforts, to have the liquor shops removed in their areas? I have given a concrete case and I wish to know what he has got to say in the matter, and what he proposes to do hereafter in similar cases."

* Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar :—" Mr. President, Sir, in speaking on this subject I have to say a few words as to the way in which the aspirations of the people to put down drinking have been viewed by Government. I would only refer to the way in which they have been dealing with the people who were working in this movement. Sir, the movement was started under the auspices of the Government, district committees were appointed, and there was also a Central Committee. But when the scheme was put in motion, I know in my own district, the Chittoor district, the Superintendent of Police was dead against it. He would not allow the van to be used for propaganda. He did not stop with this. He had the posters pulled down supplied by the Government for the purpose of carrying on the propaganda. And when a reference was made to the Central Board of the high-handed way in which the Police authorities were dealing with the propaganda people no answer came; and consequently the matter had to be dropped. The poor president had to stand aghast. And I may tell you that the propaganda work that was done in spite of these obstacles was excellent.

" I am speaking from personal knowledge. In my own village these 4 p.m. propaganda committees have been doing good work and there has been a public feeling created. The Indian villager is most amenable to such public opinion. He could be very easily influenced and weaned out. That is exactly the reason why I suppose on the advice of the higher authorities the district propaganda committees have been started. For this very obvious reason, if they had been continued for a few years more, public opinion would have been solidified and it would have been much easier for Government and the Minister to stand up and say ' I am able to say I can carry on the propaganda with success.' Instead of that why should they submit themselves to work against the propaganda? Could they not say, ' We are responsible to public opinion!' Do they forget for the time being that they are the accredited agents of this

Council? Why should they submit and say 'as others say we also say.' It is because our Ministers are wanting in vitality, because they will not assert themselves, because they will not say this is right whatever the consequences may be that they are in the present position. I know the result of the vote on Excise. We have always been successful for the last few years but this year we are going to be defeated. (A voice: Even last year you were defeated.) It is because the backbone of the Minister is so weak that he cannot resist anything. He has to stiffen himself at least now. Why does he not resign on this issue which will be setting an example for other people to follow? It is because we have no leaders who can visualize and see that by their example people can do things more than they do at present that the Ministers are yielding meekly on such vital questions as excise and land revenue. The policy of Government of closing propaganda is absolutely wrong. The Ministers ought to have said, 'No, we won't agree.' But somehow or other it is out of sight. Mr. Arokiaswami Mudaliyar and others have also suggested that at least one district may be immune from the drink evil. It is no good. Either it is an evil, or it is not. When there is fight between the two, we must say we shall reject the evil and submit ourselves to the consequences. There is no compromise. I would submit that Ministers should go out on such vital questions without sticking to office and say that the determination of the people is so and so and that we are against the evil being perpetuated. There is no use of this lifeless policy. There is no use of both living and dying. We must make up our mind. I dare say that this lifeless dragging on of our existence makes political life disappointing. It makes life not worth living. If you want to continue your existence as Ministers, say so. Otherwise stop this half-hearted existence and help the country by resigning, so that better opinion may prevail and public opinion may solidify itself."

* Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" On this cut motion I wish to make a few observations. First of all we find that nature to a certain extent and the propaganda that was done by the Congress during the last ten years have come to the rescue of the hon. the Minister. To-day he can come forward and boldly say: " I have, during my regime, been able to show that there has been a reduction of a crore and a half in the Excise revenue." But on the other hand the credit does not go to him, for we find that he has not adopted a policy of prohibition during his regime. It was as a result of the propaganda and the picketing and the way in which the moral and the religious aspect of this evil has been brought home to the people of this Province that we are faced to-day with a reduction of a crore and a half within the course of a year or two in the Excise revenue. The other day the hon. the Finance Member thought fit to say that it was only the economic depression in the Province that was responsible for the reduction of 90 crores of rupees in the Excise revenue during last year. I suppose it is a question of policy with him and with the Government not to give credit to the national movement in the country, the result of which is now shown in the reduction of Excise revenue of such a large sum in one year. The hon. Minister in his speech in replying to the debate in this House made a definite statement

11th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

in regard to his policy. In conclusion he said, ' Whether I shall succeed in making the whole of it dry is more than what I can predict now, because I do not want to make predictions which might prove to be false, but I can give you this assurance that this will be the procedure which the Government will adopt. As regards this policy there need not be any doubt.' He said that he will try to bring about prohibition in one district at least. I wish to know, Sir, what the Government and the hon. Minister have done in order to forward that policy which he has adumbrated last year and whether he has succeeded in making at least one district dry. Of course he may come forward and say that the financial position of the Province has been such that it was impossible for the Government to try even in one district during the course of this year. But that I suppose, Sir, will really be a lame argument. If the Minister is there merely marking time, if he is not in a position to do anything with regard to the subjects placed in bis charge, if he is not going to put into practice the policy that he has put forward before himself—if he is not able to do anything I do not know, Sir, why the Minister is there. With regard to the way in which the department is worked, I wish to say, Sir, that it is very very unsatisfactory. He has not reduced the staff to the extent to which he ought to have reduced when he found that such a large sum as a crore and a half had been reduced in the Excise revenue during the last few years. There is not a proportionate reduction in the staff. I find here and there a sort of reduction, a deputy commissioner here and an inspector there. On the whole the same staff continues, whereas the revenue has been considerably reduced. I do not know what will be the answer of the hon. the Minister with regard to this matter.

" Then there are what are called licensing boards. I do not know in whose interests these licensing boards exist, whether they exist in the interests of the spread of the drink evil or whether they exist in order that they might see that the location of toddy and arrack shops are not situated in areas which will be detrimental to the people of the surrounding area. I find in the city of Madras the licensing board has not been able to do anything towards the latter object. They are unapproachable and even though the constitution of the licensing board is to a certain extent such that it has on its membership representatives of temperance associations and the like, yet the constitution of the licensing board is such that the majority consists of people who are interested in increasing the spread of drink evil not only in the city but also in the whole Province. Whether the object of Government is to stick to its present policy, or whether the Government will think of revising the policy in order that the people's voice might be felt so that the location of these shops might be changed from places where they are certainly harmful to those living in the locality, I shall not say at present. I hope the Minister will give a definite reply with regard to the definite questions, viz., whether he has been able to make a definite advance, whether he will see that at least one district becomes dry before

the year is out and whether he is not going to liberalize the constitution of these licensing boards so much so that the real opinion of the people could be felt in regard to matters that come before it."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Mr. President, it is not my intention, Sir, to lecture to the Ministers on their duties as Ministers. But it seems to me that the Ministry requires a very severe reminder that they are not there to carry on the policy laid down previously in the matter of the administration of the subjects under their charge but *to carry out their policy in the administration.* I am afraid that putting that test to these Ministers, they have disappointed many a friend. My hon. Friend, Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, who is now in charge of the Excise department, when he was in this side of the House, as a spokesman of his party, was decidedly in favour of prohibition and insisted upon the Government then in power to carry out that policy. We therefore took that, when he assumed office, sincere attempts to prosecute the policy which he adumbrated while he was in the Opposition will be made. I ask the Minister whether he did anything towards the realization of his objects and previous theories. The hon. Member from Bellary, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, has mentioned to us the case of the whole district from the Government officers downwards pleading with bended knees before the Minister for introduction of prohibition at least in certain specified areas.

-15 m. " The hon. the Minister was not able to comply with that request. What further proof was necessary to convince the Government? Hitherto it was stated that the people must be ready, they must be educated before any active steps for prohibition could be taken. This Ministry ostensibly for the purpose of introducing prohibition devoted a few lakhs of rupees for propaganda work. Now what is the experience of those who undertook the propaganda work? Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar from Chittoor has said that the posters supplied by the Government were torn away by the District Superintendent of Police. Is it a case of Government working against Government? Then, what steps has the Minister taken to prevent that kind of thing? If you advise people not to drink, not to go to the taverns, you are tabooed as coercive picketer and sentenced to imprisonment. Section 144 was very freely used in such cases; and Mr. Parthasarathi Ayyangar had not escaped from the operation of that section. Then, the case of Anantapur seems to be peculiarly unfortunate. The District Collector recommended prohibition in certain areas; the people were ready to take up that policy; bids did not come up for shops; then all sorts of devices were resorted to by the Executive to impose these shops on people who are unwilling to drink. After the shops are opened, it is natural that a few weaklings would be tempted to go there and corrupt the rest of the society. Is this the way to introduce prohibition, to prosecute the policy adumbrated by the Minister when he was in the Opposition and which even now he would not deny is the right policy? It looks as though that what the Ministers are pursuing is merely a policy of wobbling. They want to win the electorate by saying that they are for prohibition, but do not want to take

any steps towards achieving it. Surely they cannot long be deceiving them. One day the disillusionment must come, and I am afraid it is coming, sooner than later.

" Now, Sir, there was one stock argument of the Ministry, viz., that if prohibition is introduced the revenues would fall and it would be difficult to balance the Budget. Now, the revenues have fallen without any prohibition being introduced, and have not steps been taken to balance the Budget? If only the Ministry adhered to their policy and made the Government departments carry out that policy instead of their carrying out the Government departments' policy, then it would be possible to balance the Budget. If our revenues fall, we must trim our expenditnre to suit the times. Therefore, the argument that there is a lot of expenditure to meet should not deter any Ministry from introducing prohibition. At least now, when the time is nearing when they will have to face the electorate, should not some steps be taken to introduce prohibition at least in areas which are ripe for it, and earnestly want to adopt it? "

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry to note that this hon. House does not seem to exhibit much interest in these debates; even the Ministry which is supposed to be responsible for running the show of this Diarchy does not take sufficient interest, because one of the three pillars of the Ministry, I mean the Second Minister, is bodily absent from this House. (Laughter). I am afraid, Sir, in order to rouse the interest of the House, I may have to create a scene playing the part of the drunken abkari officer, because I know some of the abkari officers themselves are the worst sinners in the matter of drinking. However, Sir, I want to know what the Ministers have done or rather the Excise Minister has done to carry out the policy of prohibition. It is generally understood and admitted by Government also that their policy is to attain complete prohibition, though not immediately, at least gradually. They now say they have restricted drink, they have introduced prohibition in certain villages and in certain areas. How long have they been saying this? This excuse has become very stale now; there is no use of saying again that they adopt the same method even now. Cannot they adopt some other method? My object in rising to speak now is to suggest a method which I think will be very effective in attaining the object. Instead of restricting or prohibiting drink in certain areas, I should suggest that they may prohibit drink during certain hours of the day. This method was tried in another country on a former occasion and found it was a splendid success. I refer to the method adopted by Prophet of Arabia who introduced prohibition gradually without much difficulty. That the method adopted by him was successful would be evident from the fact that Arabia, Mespotamia, Egypt, Syria, Tnrkey and Persia are all even now quite free from drink. The Prophet of Arabia succeeded in making the whole of Arabia dry in the course of ten years. The method adopted by him was this: he first said that people should not come to prayers when drunk; so they had to keep away from

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad] [11th March 1932

drink for about an hour before going to prayer; as they had to pray five times, so five hours they had to abstain from drink. When he found that that device so far was successful, he said that they should not drink during day time. After some time when he found that the people had become accustomed to abstention he prohibited drink altogether. His method was very successful, and even now it is a standing monument to his achievement in this respect. So, if the Ministers are really anxious that the country should become dry and that prohibition should be successful, he must adopt methods somewhat similar to those I have mentioned. Instead of that, the Minister says, he has prohibited drink in certain areas, and he will introduce it gradually in other areas also. At this rate it will take not 20 years but 200 years before he can introduce total prohibition. The other excuse is that the fall in revenue will make it difficult for him to run the Government. But I say the House will be resourceful enough to suggest means of finding sufficient revenue to meet the expenditure. He might have trust in this House, when the time comes, for suggesting means of recouping the revenue. I hope therefore the Minister will be good enough to adopt some such method which will be helpful to bring about prohibition in as short a time as possible."

* Mr. Yakub Hasan:—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Sir Archibald Campbell in his reply told us that we should wait for the new Constitution, and that when it comes we can devise a revenue system and collect revenue in the way that we think proper. He practically told us that under the present system the Members of the Executive Council are not responsible to the House. You cannot call upon them to revise their methods; you cannot compel them to do it; you are helpless. He told you that when there will be a Minister in charge of Revenue you could deal with him as you think best. The subject we are now discussing is however in charge of a Minister. Is the Minister going to tell us, 'Though I am responsible to the House and I have got the freedom to do whatever I think best for the good of my country and though I hold certain views in this matter which views are different from those held by European Executive Councillors, still what am I to do; though I am free, still there are Executive Councillors who sit in the Cabinet, and they compel me not to give in to the public demand in the matter of excise; they are forcing my hands; and I am too weak to resist them. At the same time I cannot expose my own helplessness; and so I tell you that prohibition is impossible. You were foolish enough to pass a resolution about it. As long as I was on the Opposition, I, like you, thought that prohibition was good, but now I am a Minister. My opinion is that this Council has made a mistake in passing that resolution. Prohibition cannot be effected; at any rate as long as I am the Minister I am not going to do it.' There is no good camouflaging like this. The speech that he made in this Council on the last Budget occasion—I read it this morning and I felt ashamed that the Minister should come down so much as to make such flimsy excuses depending upon the cleverness of his arguments in order to brush aside the real issue and say something or other by way of reply without committing himself to anything.

11th March 1932] [Mr. Yakub Hasan]

I wish that Ministers would act better than that. If they have difficulties in the way, let them take us into their confidence and show us what the difficulties are. Let them not say 'We have promised to bring about prohibition in twenty years of which six years are gone. Why should we do it piecemeal? What is the hurry? We will bring about prohibition in the 20th year only? That is not the proper way in which you, who are the forerunners of the future Ministry, should set an example to your successors.

"I appeal to the hon. Minister again to be very very careful in the reply that he is going to give us. In my opinion this is the proper time when prohibition can be introduced. The Excise revenues are going down. Last year the fall was 1 crore 20 lakhs. This year it has fallen by 1 crore 40 lakhs. In two years it has come down to Rs. 2,60,00,000. What is the reason for this fall of revenue? The reason is that a large number of people have not got enough even to eat, and so they do not drink. But still there are people who are addicted to drink, who would rather starve, but spend the money in drinking. They would rather make their wives and children starve but spend away whatever money they earn in drink. They would rather do all this than deny themselves the happiness of drinking a pot of some intoxicant or other. We know that poorer class of people are addicted more to drinking than the richer class of people. So, if you introduce prohibition now, you will be really doing some service to the people especially at a time of great depression when they want your help in diverting to domestic use the money which would otherwise go for the purchase of wines or liquors. You have lost a revenue of 2 crores and 60 lakhs in two years. Can you not make up your mind to lose a little more by introducing prohibition in two or three districts? You have effected some savings by making retrenchments in several departments. Can you not make use of that savings for covering the expenditure which will be caused by introducing prohibition? Surely some way can be found if only there is a will. I hope the hon. Minister will now at least turn a new leaf and assure us that, as far as he is concerned, he means to do something practical in the course of a year in this direction."

* Mr. G. R. PREMAYYA:—"Sir, in the third Council of this Legislature the Excise policy adopted was that the country should go dry within 20 years, that is to say, that within that period prohibition should be introduced in one district after another until in a period of 20 years the whole country has become dry. With this object in mind the hon. Minister of the third Council with the support of all the Members of this House recognized the principle that we ought to have complete prohibition after 20 years. Now it appears that 20 years time is an act of the past. It appears that the hon. Minister in charge is not going to follow this 20 years plan. Arguments may be advanced against prohibition saying that it would be very difficult to make the country dry. Sir, if you go back and study our Indian History you will find that our Indian leaders with the help of the British Government abolished Sati. They drove it completely out of India and also infanticide. Of late there was a legislation here in this Council to stop immoral

[Mr. G. R. Premayya] [11th March 1932

traffic. That was passed and nobody objected to it and it has been given effect to. After some time it will be an act of the past. When people are ready to vote for legislation of that kind, why not we try this method of prohibition?

"Now this drink evil is a dangerous devil and it spoils almost all the people of our country. If all of us are sincere and wish to drive this devil out of India, why should we still keep it on lurking in our Province without doing anything tangible? To clean America off slavery, Abraham Lincoln had to give up his life. Can we find one good soul in our country to sacrifice for the liberation of our people from drink evil? Here is a voice to say that there is Mr. Gandhi. Our dear wisest Gandhi does not drink. But he never made a bold attempt to drive this drink evil out of India. He is a man who fights for Swaraj. He does not fight for drink evil. That is my answer to the one who interrupted me.

"I stated at the time of the general discussion of the Budget that people of this country are manufacturing contraband liquor. The hon. Minister in his reply to the Budget speech did not say much as to how he was going to combat this evil. Now, people are finding various means to manufacture contraband liquor. I think after some time it will be quite a difficult job for the Government to stop it. Although the department is making feeble attempts to stop it, unless they make more vigorous attempts, they cannot succeed.

"If the hon. Minister is not going to make an attempt to stop this manufacture of illicit liquor and unless he gives us a clear assurance that he is going to follow his old policy of prohibition within 20 years, I am going to vote this Demand down. I want complete prohibition to be introduced within 20 years. I wish that that millennium should dawn on our people sooner or later."

* Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar :—"I am in this fortunate position, that is to say, I am a new comer to this Council. I am not tied down by any pledges that were made in this Council. It is all very easy to talk of prohibition. I do not think there is any one in this House, whether he is an agnostic or atheist or a religious person, who does not want that there should be total prohibition. Everybody—man, woman and child—who has got any self-respect in him and who has the advancement of this country at heart, wants that the country should go dry and everybody is agreed that this devil of drink should be driven out of this country. The only question is how it is to be done. From the remarks made by my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, I wish to know whether the method which, he says, was adopted in Arabia was successful in achieving the desired results. I would like to be further enlightened on that point. I would also like to know as to what exactly the number of date and palmyra trees that are to be found in Arabia, and the number of coconut trees that are to be found there. I would like to have this information in order to come to the conclusion whether it would be possible for the Government in this country, where there are so many trees available from which the intoxicating liquors can

11th March 1932] [Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar]

be extracted, to cut down those trees in order merely to prevent people from tapping these trees for getting liquor. That is the piece of information that I would like to have from my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad. If, as a matter of fact, that country abounds, as India does, or at any rate as Southern India does, in coconut and palmyra trees, and if in spite of that fact, the Government there have been able to put down the drink evil and the people there have been able to resist their temptation for drinking the juice made out of these various trees, that would be certainly a very interesting point for this House to know. I am sure the hon. Member will help us by giving this information so that we may also solve the problem of prohibition in this Province.

"Sir, I do not think there is anybody in this country who is against prohibition, but the only question is how that object is to be achieved. Is it possible in the present state of our finances to vote down this Demand? Is it possible for us to lose the revenue that is derived from this source by voting down this Demand? Even if we do that, can we supplement that cut by getting our income from some other source? Is there any constructive proposal put forward in order to see that the amount which we can vote down is replaced by some other way? If we can do that and if any constructive proposal has been placed before the House by the Retrenchment Committee which has been exploring the various avenues of income and expenditure in this Province, I for one would be very glad to accept the proposal and certainly vote down the whole Demand under Excise. For one moment supposing you vote down this Demand, then certainly you will have to find another source of income in order to replace it. If that is done, I am afraid the nation-building departments, viz., the Local Self-Government and other departments will have to suffer. The villagers will be put to serious trouble. They will have no wells, no schools and no roads. As a practical man and especially as one coming from a famine area, I think in the present state of our finances, in the present state of our economic stringency, we cannot have prohibition.

"There is one other thing which I want to touch upon. During the time of the last Ministry, a meagre attempt was made in connexion with this prohibition policy. Hon. Members of this House must be aware that an attempt was made in order to put down this drink by an allotment of Rs. 8 lakhs by creating what are known as the Temperance Propaganda Committees. I think one cannot think of a more wasteful expenditure than that. I am very much pleased indeed that the present Minister has cut down that item of expenditure. The motor cars which went from place to place did nothing except carrying bundles of pamphlets and throwing them before the villagers. The persons employed in that connexion did absolutely nothing. On the other hand it was more an incentive and encouragement to drink rather than an instrument to put down drink. I am glad—I think it must at least be said to the credit of the hon. Minister—that he asserted himself and came to a different conclusion and stopped this propaganda and thereby saved 8 lakhs of rupees which will certainly be offered to other nation-building departments.

[Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar] [11th March 1932

–45 .m. " I have got only one grievance with regard to this matter, and that is that the vans which were purchased for this purpose have not been made over to the local boards. We have made several requests to hand over these vans to us. I do not know what they are doing with these vans and where they are lying. I once more repeat the appeal to the hon. the Excise Minister and the Chief Minister and ask them to hand over the vans to the local bodies not for the purpose of propaganda but for the purpose of bringing a cartload of sand or water or mud which will be more useful in the famine affected parts.

" I have got one other grievance with regard to the general principle of prohibition. The Excise Advisory Committees formed in every district contain certain non-official members. I also happen to be one in my district. But it is a wrong policy to include the Excise officials and renters as members of these advisory committees for they are interested persons. I appeal to the hon. Minister to see that in future the officials and renters do not find a place on these advisory committees. Further, I appeal to the hon. Minister to see that the recommendations of the advisory committees are not turned down with contempt as they are done now. In saying this I believe I am voicing the feelings of several hon. Members of this House who happen to be members of such advisory committees. Often when they make some recommendations they are turned down either in toto or to a very large extent. The recommendations are made on the basis of several representations made to the committees. They usually go thoroughly into the matter and make their recommendations only after mature deliberation. When an advisory committee comes to the unanimous conclusion that such and such shops should be abolished and such and such a shop should not be located in such and such a place, it is turned down by the Excise officers. I hope the hon. the Minister will be doing a service to the country and will be enhancing his prestige if he changes the composition of the committees and sees that their recommendations are made mandatory and not merely advisory as at present. At the same time I would request the hon. Members not to indulge in expecting all kinds of hypothetical benefits that may be derived from their proposals. There is no use in expecting that the millennium will dawn at once. We will have to look at the problems facing us from a practical point of view and that will be the only quick road to a solution of them."

* Mr. P. C. Moses :—" Mr. President, Sir, the present economic depression has satisfactorily solved the question whether propagation should not precede prohibition. I have always thought that the money spent on the Propaganda Board was a sheer waste of public funds. I condemn that policy for two reasons. That the Government should encourage drinking by keeping an establishment for conducting auction sales of shops and collection of excise revenue and at the same time discourage drink by instituting propagation boards, is rather an inconsistency. I also think these propaganda boards are unnecessary because there are several missionary societies and other social welfare workers' organizations which carry on the work of educating the people on the

11th March 1932] [Mr. P. C. Moses]

evils of drink. The people drink not because they do not know the evils of drinking but because they have got a taste for it. The only way of solving this problem of drink is by legislation. If I may borrow a phrase of my hon. Friend, Mr. Premayya, I will say if you want to drive out the devil of drink from this country you must take the stick of legislation. Let the Government take courage in both hands and face the consequences that may ensue from anti-drink legislation. Let them introduce prohibition at least in one district and see whether it will not be a solution of this problem. I am for complete prohibition, but let the Government try this experiment and see the results of it. I may point out that, since the Minister for Education is also the Minister for Excise, he should arrange to teach the children the evils of drink and prepare the ground for total prohibition in the future. With regard to the location of shops, many hon. Members have spoken on it. I have seen shops located in front of school buildings and churches, thus offering a temptation to the people to step in and have a drink. These temptations must be removed. Whatever steps in the direction of prohibition may be adopted by the Government, in the initial stages the drinkers will curse the Government; but I am sure in the end the wives and children of the drinkers will bless them for the great benefit conferred on them by the policy of prohibition."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. President, Sir, hitherto the Government have been relying solely or mostly on the excise revenue for running many departments of the Government. Now under the present economic conditions of the country the Government has not been able to realize its expectations. Also public opinion demands that hereafter the Government should not look to this source of revenue as before. I should like to know from the hon. the Minister for Excise whether he has taken these matters into consideration and come to any conclusion as to the future policy of the Government in the matter of excise. Some two years ago, there was a real desire on the part of Government to encourage temperance reform in this Presidency. As a result of it propaganda committees were instituted in various districts to find out whether the people were for total prohibition or not. But now without any rhyme or reason they have abolished these propaganda committees. The valuable appliances which they were using are rotting now somewhere and they are not even being used by other temperance associations doing honorary work in this country. Have the Government after spending so much money on this propaganda found out what is the opinion of the people of the country with regard to total prohibition? Recently the Government set apart Rs. 10,000 to he doled out to these propaganda committees; I do not know what has become of the amount. I heard that recently the Director of Public Health has been approacbing the various temperance associations asking them to produce vouchers for the amount spent on their propaganda work during the last nine months in 1931. These are associations doing honorary work and they cannot all be expected to maintain such records as vouchers and other things. I think the Government should find out the

real merits of the various temperance associations working on constitutional lines in this Province and afford them some facility to do better work in this respect.

" In page 17 of the Excise Administration Report for 1930–31 it is said:

> 'The department would welcome assistance from those who would welcome prohibition and with that in view desire to put an end to the licit sale of liquor, in assisting to put down the consumption of illicit liquor, by reporting such cases and by assisting the officers of the department to detect them and prevent their recurrence, but so far such assistance has not been received and the efforts of the more active opponents of liquor stop short at criticising the activities of the department.'

" With reference to the above remark I should like to know whether the Excise officers in the districts are really friendly with the temperance associations. On the other hand I know of instances where the Excise officers without working in co-operation with the temperance workers go to the extent of criticising those noble workers and institutions.

" Now coming to my district of the Nilgiris, I find from page 19 of the same report there is a fall in the consumption of beer and country spirits and increase in wines. Partial prohibition was introduced in the Nilgiris a few years ago with the object of getting it subsequently extended to the whole district. Unfortunately, the experiment did not prove a success as it was originally expected, because the middlemen came on the scene and the hill tribes were able to get any amount of drink. Further, the report says: 'The Collector brings to notice that recently a few Kotahs requested that their caste might be excluded from the scheme of prohibition.' Therefore I do not think any good will come out of partial prohibition in the Nilgiris unless the Government makes up its mind to penalize the possession of liquor by the hill tribes. This matter was brought before the hon. Minister even during the last Budget debate, but so far nothing substantial has been done. I should like to know what the hon. Minister is doing to advance the policy of prohibition, so far as the Nilgiris is concerned."

* Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo:—" Mr. President, Sir, prohibition must mean not merely the closing of all shops but also effective prevention of smuggling. Therefore a special staff will be required to see that contraband liquor is not smuggled into the prohibited area. Before introducing prohibition in any place Government will have to see whether they can find the necessary funds to pay the preventive staff. It was said that by one word of his mouth the Prophet of Arabia was able to stop drinking. I also know that Sukracharya prohibited drinking. But who can say that the advice of these people has resulted in a complete abstinence from drink by all people? No doubt, social and religious injunctions will have a greater force than legislation. But in the sphere of social and religious work, where is the need for the people asking the assistance of the Government? (Hear, hear). How can any Minister be blamed for the policy he pursues so long as the present system exists. The Minister has to do nothing but yield to the

11th March 1932] [Mr. M. G. Patnaik]

other portions of the Government. The Government have no doubt a moral duty to prohibit drinking, but it is to their interest also to see that they get their revenues properly for the smooth administration of the country. Here is a case of conflict of interest and duty. So long as the Government have to find a certain sum of money to run the administration and so long as this is a big source of revenue, I do not think they will be able to introduce prohibition at all.

"Of course that will be no justification. It appears to me that the only excuse that is put forward is that people will resort to contraband liquor if shops are closed. Therefore the Government seem to think 'why not we penalise drinking? we will get some money; we have prohibited drinking partially.' As a matter of fact drinking is going on still. It has become the fashion; though the Hindu religion condemns drinking, though Muhammadanism condemns it, unfortunately those who are ruling the country have not condemned it as the Hindus and Muhammadans. As it has become fashionable now-a-days to drink, very many people have taken to it. That is the reason why large quantities of wine are imported into India; the poorer people get their drink elsewhere. Unless the ruling class in India gives up drinking, I fear we cannot bring about prohibition." 5 p.m.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again to-morrow at 11 a.m."

IV—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. *Letter*[a] *No.* 298, *Public, dated* 22*nd February* 1932.

2. *Letter*[b] *No.* 298-*A, Public, dated* 23*rd February* 1932, *containing the views of the Madras Government on the Franchise Committee's questionnaire.*

3. *The reply*[c] *of the Madras Provincial Franchise Committee to the questionnaire.*

4. *The subsequent letter* [d] *No.* 283-1, *Public, dated* 22*nd February* 1932.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 78—87 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 87—90 infra.
[c] Printed as Appendix V on pages 90—98 infra.
[d] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 98-99 infra.

Appendix I.

[Vide answer to question No. 994 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1932, page 21 supra.]

District. (1)	Number of motor-cars in use at the end of 1931. (2)	Number of cars plying for hire at the end of 1931. (3)	Number of buses plying for hire at the end of 1931. (4)	Number of accidents. 1930. (5)	Number of accidents. 1931. (6)
Madras City	About 5,200	141	511	368	396
Anantapur	39	3	65	9	1
Arcot, North	148	27	158	40	50
Arcot, South	167	5	80	6	19
Bellary	108	2	83	20	9
Chingleput	127	24	230	61	65
Chittoor	118	6	69	16	8
Coimbatore	1,904	13	342	89	97
Cuddapah ..	49	1	39	6	4
Ganjam	137	15	56	18	6
Godavari, East	579	16	296	14	7
Godavari, West	380	175	107	14	19
Guntur	208	..	97	23	16
South Kanara	216	62	168	99	55
Kistna	180	48	108	33	3
Kurnool	58	8	110	10	4
Madura	522	33	463	68	47
Malabar	637	24	559	58	108
Nellore	169	26	50	28	18
Nilgiris, The	862	17	63	23	37
Ramnad	291	13	278	21	29
Salem	548	..	284	46	41
Tanjore	501	19	152	45	33
Tinnevelly	320	23	226	31	22
Trichinopoly	505	55	161	23	25
Vizagapatam (including Agency tracts).	396	23	213	56	16
Total ..	14,369	779	4,968	1,225	1,135

Proportion of number of accidents in 1931 to those in 1930—7·3 per cent decrease.

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 996 asked by Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 11th March 1932, page 24 supra.]

List of taluk boards the areas of which have been ordered to be split up.

Chingleput district—
- Saidapet.
- Chingleput.
- Tiruvallur.

Madura district—
- Nilakkottai.
- Usilampatti.

11th March 1932]

List of taluk boards the areas of which it is proposed to be split up.

Districts and taluk boards.

Anantapur—
- Anantapur.
- Gooty.
- Dharmavaram.
- Penukonda.

North Arcot—
- Vellore.
- Ranipet.
- Cheyyar.
- Tiruvannamalai.
- Tiruppattur.

South Arcot—
- Tindivanam.
- Tirukkoyilur.

Bellary—
- Bellary.
- Adoni.
- Harpanahalli.
- Hospet.

Chittoor
- Chittoor.
- Chendragiri.
- Madanapalle.
- Karvetnagar.

Coimbatore—
- Coimbatore.
- Erode.
- Pollachi.
- Gobichettipalayam.

Cuddapah.
- Proddatur.
- Rayachoti.
- Badvel.

Ganjam—
- Chicacole.
- Ghoomsur.
- Chatrapur.

East Godavari—
- Rajahmundry.
- Pithapur.

Districts and taluk boards.

West Godavari—
- Ellore.
- Tanuku.

Guntur—
- Narasaraopet.

Kistna—
- Nuzvid.

Kurnool—
- Dhone.
- Nandyal.
- Koilkuntla.
- Markapur.

Malabar—
- Calicut.

Nellore—
- Atmakur.
- Gudur.
- Kanigiri.
- Venkatagiri.

Ramnad—
- Ramnad.
- Sivaganga.
- Devakottai.
- Sivakasi.

Salem—
- Salem.
- Hosur.
- Dharmapuri.
- Sankari.
- Namakkal.

Tanjore—
- Mayavaram.
- Pattukkottai.

Tinnevelly—
- Koilpatti.
- Sermadevi.
- Tinnevelly.
- Tuticorin.

Vizagapatam—
- Narasapatam.
- Vizagapatam.
- Parvatipur.

[11th March 1932

APPENDIX III.

[*Vide Item IV—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 75 supra.*]

Letter from T. G. RUTHERFORD, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public (Franchise) Department, to the Secretary, Indian Franchise Committee, Camp India, dated Fort St. George, the 22nd February 1932, No. 298.

[Franchise Committee Questionnaire—Views of the Government of Madras.]

I am directed to forward to you a copy of the Madras Provincial Franchise Committee's replies to the questionnaire issued by the Franchise Committee together with the views of the Government of Madras on extention of the franchise, women's suffrage and other matters referred to in the questionnaire and also on the question as to whether there should be a second chamber in the provincial legislature.

2. I am to state that the questionnaire and the recommendations of the Provincial Committee have been considered by His Excellency the Governor with his Executive Council and Ministers sitting together and that the views expressed in this letter are the views of the Government as a whole.

3. *Question 3 (c)—Administrative possibility of an electorate comprising 10 per cent of the population.*—The Madras Government consider that such an electorate and all the arrangements for the preparation, maintenance, and revision of the rolls, and for polling and counting of votes in this Province are administratively possible.

4. *Question 3 (b)—Capacity of such an electorate to cast an intelligent vote.*—The Government consider that a large portion of the electorate that will result from the franchise necessary to give the vote to 10 per cent of the population will not at present be able to cast an intelligent vote, but as electoral rolls for the district municipalities and local boards have already been prepared which will enfranchise roughly 10 per cent of the population, it is administratively convenient to adopt the same roll for the Legislative Council. The reduction in the size of constituencies made possible through an increase in the number of elected members of the Council, and the local board and municipal elections being held on a wider franchise than has hitherto existed, are expected to quicken up the political education of the electors.

5. *Question 1 (e)—Desirability and feasibility of further extension.*—The Government are emphatically of the opinion that at present no further extension beyond such additions as may be made by lowering the franchise for Madras City as proposed by the Provincial Committee, and by providing an independent literacy qualification for men and women, is either feasible or desirable.

11th March 1932]

6. *Franchise suggested to bring* 10 *per cent of the population on the electoral roll.*—The franchise provided by the Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards Act as last amended will as stated by the Provincial Committee give the result apparently aimed at. Extracts from those Acts to show the qualifications of electors under this proposal are appended. Short of adult suffrage it is the widest possible so long as a property qualification is retained. Briefly, the qualification is occupation of land as pattadar, inamdar, landholder, landholder's tenant, or lessee on a written lease, or assessment to any tax however small, or being an ex officer or ex soldier of His Majesty's regular forces. In the Madras City the limit of exemption from the property tax is high compared with mufussal municipalities while the profession tax is as low as Re. 1-4-0 a year. In order therefore to extend the franchise in the Madras City to the same extent as is proposed in the district and rural areas the Government agree with the Provincial Committee that the occupancy franchise should be altered from occupation as tenant of a house of not less than Rs. 60 annual rental value to occupation as *owner* or tenant of a house of not less than Rs. 18 annual value. With the addition of the independent literacy qualification which this Government is disposed to adopt, it is anticipated that the total number of persons enfranchised would be 5·38 millions or 11·5 per cent of the population. The Government agree with the Provincial Committee in thinking that the provision in the Local Boards Act by which lessees of land on a written lease are included in the electoral roll requires more precise definition with a view to prevent the manufacture of bogus leases and votes. A minimum period of three years, a minimum rent of Rs. 2 or its equivalent in kind and a minimum area of 1 acre would probably be a suitable modification.

7. *Question* 1 (*f*) *to* (*j*)—*Group representation.*—The Madras Government do not consider that the system of group representation suggested by the Franchise Sub-Committee of the Round Table Conference and in the questionnaire or as described in the literature on the subject which the Franchise Committee have been good enough to circulate in advance, is suitable for this province, and are in general agreement with the views expressed on this subject by the Provincial Committee.

8. *Question* 2 (*a*)—*Disparity in operation of franchise.*—The franchise now proposed will rectify such disparity as there is. The population of the urban areas including Madras is just under 8 per cent of the whole: the urban electors are at present 13·6 of the total electorate and under the new franchise will be about 8·4 per cent.

9. *Question* 2 (*c*)—*Property qualification.*—The Government consider that the property qualification laid down in the District Municipalities and Local Boards Acts which is based on assessment to a direct tax of some kind or occupation of property in the shape of building or land is the most suitable definition and evidence of a property qualification.

10. *Question* 2 (*d*)—*Literacy qualification.*—The Madras Government had already recommended the introduction of an independent literacy qualification in paragraph 24 of its Letter No. 978, Public Department,

dated 11th August 1930, to the Government of India on the recommendations of the Statutory Commission. At that time it contemplated only a comparatively small extension of the franchise on a property qualification and suggested a fairly low literacy qualification. In view however of the wide extension of the franchise now agreed to, and the fact that generally speaking the vote given by the individual is representative of the family opinion, it considers that the independent literacy qualification for men at least, should be fairly high, and accordingly accepts the recommendation of the Provincial Committee that it should be the possession of a completed Secondary School-Leaving Certificate or its equivalent. As regards women the case is different. Some means has to be found other than the ordinary property qualification to increase to some extent the number of women on the electoral roll since the property laws of the country operate against their coming on the roll in sufficient numbers as compared with men and the Government agree that in their case the literacy qualification may be ability to read and write, the qualification of women claiming to be registered on this qualification to be certified to by some such method as the certificate of a village magistrate or other magistrate as to her ability to read and write on her own written application to be included on the roll.

11. *Question 2 (e)—Military qualification.*—The Madras Government consider that an extension of the present military qualification to include service in the Auxiliary and Territorial Forces is unnecessary.

12. *Question 3 (a)—Women's suffrage.*—The Government agree with the view of the Provincial Committee that it is not desirable to give the vote to the wives or widows (not otherwise qualified) of male electors qualified by property. The reduced property qualification and the low literacy qualification proposed will bring on to the electoral roll in the neighbourhood of 900,000 women as compared with the present 128,000 and it should be seen how far these will exercise their electoral rights before proposals for further increasing the proportion of women on the roll are accepted.

13. *Question 3 (b)—Group system for women.*—The Government have expressed their opinion on the suggested group system in paragraph 7 of this letter.

14. *Question 3 (c)—Representation of women on the Legislative Council.*—The Government are opposed to the suggestion that women members should be co-opted by the Legislative Council, but are not in favour of the Provincial Committee's proposals for reserved seats in urban areas. They agree that representation should be secured but consider that a simpler and better method than reservation of seats would be as follows. A fixed number of seats should be reserved in the Council for women: women should be allowed as at present in this Province to stand for any constituency for which they are qualified to stand and unsuccessful women candidates up to the number so reserved obtaining the highest percentage of votes to the number of electors on the electoral roll in the constituency for which they stand, should be declared elected to the seats reserved for women, provided that they have obtained

11th March 1932]

sufficient votes not to forfeit their deposits. Women who top the poll in any constituency and win a seat outright would come into the Council as ordinary members and would be additional to those filling the seats reserved for women. If on the other hand the number of women candidates was insufficient to fill the quota of reserved seats, no further steps to fill the quota should be taken, whether by nomination or otherwise.

15. *Question 4—Representation of depressed classes.*—The Government adhere to the views already expressed by them previously in paragraph 20 of their Memorandum to the Statutory Commission and in paragraph 12 of their Letter No. 978, dated 11th August 1930, to the Government of India on the recommendations of the Commission. They agree with the Provincial Committee that without separate electorates the depressed classes cannot get representatives of their own choice.

As regards the definition of depressed classes the Government consider that the definition of the term Adi-Dravidas as given in clause 3 (1) of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, would be suitable. Under this section a supplemental list of communities has been notified by the Government in G.O. No. 1541, L. & M., dated 7th May 1931, of which a copy is appended together with an extract from the Act. The Government propose that a similar list should be issued in respect of the separate electorates for the Legislative Council. This would cover all those known or hitherto regarded as 'untouchables' and the Government consider that only such communities should be included in the category of 'Depressed classes' for special treatment. The Government do not consider it desirable to apply the group system to the depressed classes. It is estimated that the lower franchise will bring on to the rolls about 300,000 depressed class electors which will be about 8·4 per cent of their total adult population.

16. *Question 5—Representation of labour.*—Subject to the proviso that the qualifying period should be not less than one year's continuous employment, the Government accept the recommendation of the Provincial Franchise Committee for the formation of special labour constituencies to bring the voice of labour into the Council in preference to making registered unions the constituency or constituencies as was proposed by the Whitley Commission. The ground for their opinion is the backward state of labour organization in the province and the way the unions are organized for the employees of particular firms or corporations.

17. *Question 5-A—Representation of special interests.*—The Government are of opinion that as at present Landholders, European Trade and Commerce, Planting, Indian Trade and Commerce and the Universities should have representation secured to them and that Labour be added as a special interest. They agree with the Provincial Committee's suggestion that the Madras Trades Association should be merged with the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of forming a European Trade and Commerce constituency.

18. *Question 6 (a)—Method of election to the Upper Chamber—Federal Legislature.*—The majority of the Government are not in favour

of the proposal of the Federal Structure Committee. They prefer direct election by a limited electorate of qualifications calculated to ensure the inclusion therein of persons of wealth, education and administrative experience not only in local bodies and the legislatures, but in the public services of the country, such as, ex judges, ex collectors and retired *officials of similar standing, and the method of election* should be by proportional representation by the single transferable vote as is at present the practice for the Council of State. With the increased representation proposed to be given to Madras, the province can be divided up into plural constituencies of more manageable area than at present. *With a limited electorate and canvassing mainly done by post,* and candidates generally men of standing known to the public, the size of the constituencies is not of such importance as in the case, say, of the Provincial Legislative Council.

19. *Question 6 (b)—Franchise qualifications for Federal Legislature.*—The suggestion of the Provincial Franchise Committee that for the Lower Chamber of Federal Legislature, the franchise qualification should be lowered so as to double the number of electors at present on the rolls for the Legislative Assembly is acceptable to Government. So also their proposal that the electorate for the Upper Chamber should be one similar to that at present existing for the Council of State supplemented by a provision for the inclusion of ex officials of fairly high standing.

20. *Question 6 (c)—Election to Federal Lower Chamber.*—The majority of the Government agree with the majority of the members of the Federal Structure Committee that election to the Lower Chamber of the Federal Legislature should be by territorial constituencies consisting of qualified voters who would cast their vote directly for the candidates of their choice, which is also the view of the Provincial Franchise Committee.

21. *Question 7—Representation of women, etc., in the Federal Legislature.*—Disagreeing with the Provincial Committee, the Government do not consider that there is any proper ground or necessity for securing specially the representation of women in the Upper Chamber. Only representation of Muslims and Europeans needs to be secured. In the Lower Chamber the interests which should be secured representation are Landholders, Indian Commerce, Women and Labour, and the communities for whom special provision is required to secure adequate representation are Muslims, Depressed Classes, Europeans and Indian Christians. No special provision for the representation of European Commerce is suggested as it is considered that the proposed representation of Europeans as a community will cover their commercial interests.

22. The provisional views of the Madras Government as to the size of the Legislative Council and the qualifications of candidates which have been asked for by the Chairman of the Franchise Committee will be forwarded shortly. As regards the question of a Second Chamber in the Provincial Legislature, the Government as at present constituted are of opinion that, in view of the fact that the franchise for the Council is proposed to be very greatly extended, there should be a Second Chamber

11th March 1932]

which would act as an effective check on ill-considered and hasty legislation; the ideas of Government as to the details of the composition of the Second Chamber will be forwarded later.

APPENDIX

I

PRESENT QUALIFICATIONS FOR MADRAS CITY ELECTORATE—LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Extract from the Madras Electoral Rules.

4. *Urban Madras City constituency.*—A person shall be qualified as an elector for a Madras City constituency who—

(*a*) was assessed in the previous year to property-tax or tax on companies or profession tax; or

(*b*) occupied for not less than six months in the previous year a house in the City, not being a house in any military or police line, of an annual value of not less than Rs. 60; or

(*c*) was assessed in the previous year to income-tax; or

(*d*) is a retired, pensioned or discharged officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier of His Majesty's regular forces.

Explanation.—No person shall be deemed to occupy a house within the meaning of clause (*b*) unless he is paying or is liable to pay to the owner the rent thereof, or is exempt from the payment of rent by virtue of any office, service or employment; nor shall more than one person be qualified as an elector in respect of the same house.

II

Extract from the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

45. *Qualifications for voting.*—(1) No person shall be included in the electoral roll as qualified to vote unless—

(*a*) he is a British subject or a subject of a State in India:

Provided that the Local Government may exclude from the scope of this restriction any alien or class of aliens;

(*b*) he has attained the age of twenty-one years in the year preceding that in which the electoral roll is published;

(*c*) he has been assessed in such preceding year to any tax payable to the Government of India or to the Local Government or to any local authority in the Presidency of Madras or is a retired, pensioned or discharged officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier of His Majesty's regular forces; and

(*d*) he has resided in the municipality for one hundred and twenty days in the aggregate in such preceding year.

(2) If a company or association or the members of a family jointly or joint pattadars has or have been assessed to any tax, the company or association or the family or joint pattadars shall be treated as

possessing the qualification, and the person entitled to be registered in the electoral roll shall be the secretary of the company or association or some other person duly authorized in that behalf or the member authorized by a majority of the family or of the joint pattadars, or, in the case of a joint Hindu family either a member so authorized or in default of such authorization, the manager thereof.

(3) A person may be qualified either in his personal capacity or in the capacity of a representative of a company or association or of a joint family or of joint pattadars, but not in both capacities.

(4) Save as provided in sub-section (2), no person shall be qualified as an elector unless he possesses the necessary qualifications in his personal capacity.

46. (Omitted.)

47. *Disqualifications of voters.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (5) of section 44, a person who is of unsound mind, a deaf-mute or a leper shall not be entitled to vote at any election to a municipal council.

III

Extract from the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

52. *General qualifications for registration.*—No person shall be included in the electoral roll (of a local board) as qualified to vote unless—

(*a*) he is a British subject or a subject of a State in India:

Provided that the Local Government may exclude from the scope of this restriction any alien or class of aliens;

(*b*) he has attained the age of twenty-one years in the year, preceding that in which the electoral roll is published;

(*c*) he possesses one or more of the qualifications described in Schedule III (annexed);

(*d*) in the case of a district or taluk board, he has resided for one hundred and twenty days in the aggregate in such preceding year in the district or taluk or in a municipality (including the City of Madras) or cantonment, situated within three miles of the district or taluk:

Provided that in the case of persons whose sole residential qualification consists in their residence in any such municipality or cantonment, their being assessed to a tax payable to a municipal or cantonment authority shall not be deemed to be a qualification within the meaning of this clause; and

(*e*) in the case of a panchayat, he has resided in the village for one hundred and twenty days in aggregate in such preceding year.

53. *Disqualifications of voters.*—Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (5) of section 51, a person who is of unsound mind, a deaf-mute or a leper, shall not be entitled to vote at any election to a local board.

SCHEDULE III.

Electoral Qualifications.

[See section 52 (c).]

Local Board Electors.

1. A person shall be qualified as an elector of a district board, taluk board or panchayat who—

(*a*) was in the previous year assessed to any tax payable to the Government of India or to the Local Government or to any local authority in the Presidency of Madras; or

(*b*) is registered as a ryotwari pattadar, or as an inamdar, of land in the district, taluk or village, as the case may be; or

(*c*) holds land in the district, taluk or village on a written lease or demise, under a ryotwari pattadar or an inamdar or any tenant under such pattadar or inamdar; or

(*d*) is registered jointly with the proprietor under section 14 of the Malabar Land Registration Act, 1895, as the occupant of land in the district, taluk or village; or

(*e*) holds an estate in the district, taluk or village as a landholder as defined in the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908; or

(*f*) holds land in the district, taluk or village as ryot or as tenant under a landholder, as defined in the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908; or

(*g*) is a retired, pensioned, or discharged officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier of His Majesty's regular forces.

2. (Omitted.)

General.

3. If property is held by, or tax is assessed upon, a company or association, or the members of a family jointly, or joint pattadars, the company or association or the family or joint pattadars shall be treated as possessing the qualification, and the person entitled to be registered in the electoral roll shall be the secretary of the company or association or some person duly authorized in that behalf or the member authorized by a majority of the family or of the joint pattadars, or, in the case of a joint Hindu family, either a member so authorized or, in default of such authorization, the manager thereof.

4. A person may be qualified either in his personal capacity or in the capacity of a representative of a company or association or of a joint family or of joint pattadars, but not in both capacities.

5. Save as provided in rule 3, no person shall be qualified as an elector unless he possesses the prescribed qualifications in his personal capacity.

IV

G.O. No. 1541, *L. & M., dated 7th May* 1931.

[Rule—Madras Local Boards and Madras District Municipalities Acts, 1920—Definition of the term 'Adi-Dravida'—Confirmed.]

* * * *

The appended notifications will be published in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and in all District Gazettes in English and in the vernacular language or languages of the district concerned.

NOTIFICATIONS.

(i)

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of section 3 and clause (*a*) of sub-section (2) of section 199 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920 (Madras Act XIV of 1920), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to make the following rule prescribing the communities which in addition to those mentioned in clause (1) of section 3 of the said Act shall be included in the 'Adi-Dravida' community for the purposes of the said Act:—

RULE.

Any person professing the Hindu religion and belonging to any of the communities mentioned in the schedule annexed hereto shall be an Adi-Dravida within the meaning of clause (1) of section 3 of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

Schedule.

Bairas.	Koragas.	Pambadas.
Bakudas.	Madaris.	Paravans (Parawans).
Bavuris.	Mailas.	Ranevars.
Bellaras.	Mogers (Mera or Kaipudas or Mogeras).	Rellis.
Chalavadis.	Mundalas.	Semmans.
Goddas.	Nalkedayas.	Vettuvans.
Haddis.	Nayadis.	
Kanakkans.		

(ii)

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (1) of section 3 and clause (*a*) of sub-section (2) of section 303 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920 (Madras Act V of 1920), the Governor acting with Ministers is hereby pleased to make the following rule prescribing the communities which in addition to those mentioned in clause (1) of section 3 of the said Act shall be included in the 'Adi-Dravida' community for the purposes of the said Act:—

RULE.

Any person professing the Hindu religion and belonging to any of the communities mentioned in the schedule annexed hereto shall be an Adi-Dravida within the meaning of clause (1) of section 3 of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920.

11th March 1932]

Schedule.

Bairas.
Bakudas.
Bavuris.
Belluras.
Chalavadis.
Goddas.
Haddis.
Kanakkans.
Koragas.
Madaris.
Mailas.
Mogers (Mera or Kaipudas or Mogeras).
Mundalas.
Nalkedayas.
Nayadis.
Pambadas.
Paravans (Parawans).
Ranevars.
Rellis.
Semmans.
Vettuvans.

V

Extract from the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920.

PART I.

Chapter I—Preliminary.

* * * *

3. In this Act unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

(1) 'Adi-Dravida' means any person professing the Hindu religion and belonging to any of the following communities, namely, the Paraiyans, Pallans, Valluvans, Malas, Madigas, Chakkiliyans, Tottiyans, Cherumans and Holeyas, or to any other community that may be prescribed.

* * * *

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide Item IV—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 75 supra.]

Letter from T. G. RUTHERFORD, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public (Franchise) Department, to the Secretary, Indian Franchise Committee, Camp India, dated Fort St. George, the 23rd February 1932, No. 298-A.

[*Reference.*—Continuation of my Letter No. 298, Public, dated 22nd February 1932.]

I am directed to communicate to you the views of the Madras Government on the following subjects.

2. *Question 2 (b)—Methods of adjusting the franchise so that voting strength of communities is proportional to population strength.*—If separate electorates are retained, differences of proportion of voting strength on the electoral rolls to population in the various communities are in the opinion of the Government immaterial. If separate electorates are not retained, and if joint electorates with or without reservation of seats are adopted with a general electorate of about 10 per cent of the population the voting strength of the minority communities would still be so small in most constituencies that nothing

[11th March 1932

short of adult suffrage in favour of the minority communities only would so strengthen their position as to enable them to get candidates of their own choice elected if their election was seriously opposed by the Hindu majority community. It is believed that in the case of Muhammadans and Indian Christians the franchise proposed will result in the numbers of electors from these communities being nearly proportional to their population strength. In the case of the depressed classes the Government have recommended separate electorates for them and agree with the recommendation of the Provincial Franchise Committee that they should also have a vote in the general non-Muhammadan constituencies in order to prevent a permanent gulf being fixed between the communities and to provide a starting point for the eventual abolition of separate electorates for depressed classes. This proposal will tend to equalize their voting strength in proportion to population with that of other communities. It has already been stated in the previous letter that about 300,000 of the depressed classes will come on to the electoral roll if the low franchise for the local boards and district municipalities is adopted. Their population is 7·1 millions and the proposal is tantamount to giving them 600,000 votes or a little over 8 per cent of their population strength.

3. The Government are of the opinion that the size of the Provincial Legislative Council should be 210 with the following composition :—

Communities—	
Non-Muhammadans	126
Muhammadans	21
Indian Christians	9
Depressed classes	18
Europeans	3
Anglo-Indians	2
Special Interests—	
Women	8
Landholders	12
Universities	1
Labour	2
Planting	2
Europeans Trade and Commerce	3
Indian Trade and Commerce	3

Indian Trade and Commerce includes two seats for the South Indian Chamber of Commerce and one for the Nattukottai Nagarathars Association.

It will be seen that their proposals differ in some respects from those of the Provincial Committee. They consider that a strength of 25 members for depressed classes is too large having regard to the difficulties of getting suitable candidates and the fact that it is proposed to give them votes in the non-Muhammadan general electorates. It may be mentioned that in connexion with the reservation of seats for the depressed classes in the municipalities and local boards the number

11th March 1932]

adopted was a minimum of one per local body and a total membership roughly proportionate to half their population strength. The 25 seats proposed by the Provincial Committee in a House of 220 amounts to giving them representation according to full population strength. The Muhammadans on population strength should only have about 12 members but have had, since the introduction of the reformed Council, considerable weightage allowed. In the present Council they have 13 out of a total of 132 members and the strength now proposed to be given to them is one-tenth of the total strength of 210. As regards the representation of Indian-Christians the eleven seats proposed by the Provincial Committee is excessive and much higher than their present five members out of 132 would warrant. As regards Europeans, Anglo-Indians, Landholders, Universities, Planting, Trade and Commerce, both European and Indian, Government have accepted the Committee's proposals. Europeans have been given one more than they would proportionately be entitled to in view of the effect on the European element in the Council by the abolition of the official 'bloc.' The non-Muhammadan seats have been fixed having regard to the desirability of making the revenue division, or where the population is very heavy. a portion thereof, a single member constituency.

4. *Qualifications of candidates for Legislative Council.*—Government are of the opinion that for general constituencies there need be no change in the present electoral rules.

The Universities constituency.—They consider that the candidate should be a member or ex-member of the Senate of one of the Universities in the Province.

The Landholders' constituencies.—They accept the Provincial Committee's proposal that the candidate should be registered as an elector in *any* landholders' constituency within the Province. At present he has to be registered in the constituency he is standing for.

For Labour constituencies Government are unable to accept the Provincial Committee's proposal which will allow too much scope for the "carpet bagger" and professional labour politician. They consider that candidates should be registered on the electoral roll of any labour constituency within the Province.

As regards women's seats the Provincial Committee's proposal goes hand in hand with their idea of reserved seats in urban areas, not necessarily the whole of the constituency, and the electors of all general electorates within that area forming the electorate for women. The Government have proposed an entirely different system for securing the representation of women in the Council and consider that women should be under the same rules for candidature as men in the general constituencies.

5. *Qualifications of candidates for the Federal Lower Chamber.*—The Government agree with the Provincial Committee's recommendation that the present rules for the Legislative Assembly may be adopted with the modification that a candidate for a general constituency may be on the roll of *any* general constituency within the

Province for the Federal Lower Chamber. At present the rule is rather a peculiar one. The candidate must either be registered on the roll of the constituency he is contesting or on that of any constituency for the Provincial Legislative Council.

6. *Qualifications of candidates for the Federal Upper Chamber.*—The Government agree with the Provincial Committee's proposal to adopt the rules at present in force for candidates for the Council of State but modified so that there shall be no sex disqualification.

7. *Disqualifications of candidates.*—The Provincial Committee's proposal to adopt the disqualification of conviction for offences as laid down in the Local Boards Act is not acceptable to Government. Government are of opinion that there need be no change in the present rules.

8. *Constitution of the Provincial Second Chamber.*—The Government consider that the strength of the Provincial Second or Upper Chamber should be about a quarter of the strength of the Provincial Lower Chamber. Some Members of the Government consider all the members of the Upper House should be elected by a limited electorate on a high franchise qualification; other favour the nomination by the Governor of a certain number of persons possessing administrative experience, the number of nominated members to be less than the number elected.

Appendix V.

[Vide Item IV—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 75 supra.]

REPLY OF THE MADRAS PROVINCIAL FRANCHISE COMMITTEE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE ISSUED BY THE FRANCHISE COMMITTEE.

Members of the Provincial Committee.

1. M.R.Ry. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar Avargal (*Chairman*).
2. ,, M. R. Setturatnam Ayyar Avargal.
3. ,, Diwan Bahadur J. Venkatanarayana Nayudu Garu, C.I.E.
4. ,, Daniel Thomas Avargal, M.L.C.
5. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, M.L.C.
6. F. E. James, Esq., M.L.C.
7. M.R.Ry. C. Basu Dev Nayudu Garu, M.L.C.
8. ,, V. Appa Rao Garu, M.L.C., Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
9. ,, M. A. Muthiah Chettiar Avargal, M.L.C.
10. ,, K. Raman Menon Avargal, M.L.C.
11. ,, N. Siva Raj Avargal, M.L.C.
12. ,, T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar Avargal, M.L.C.
13. Mrs. Paul Appaswami.
14. C. A. Souter, Esq., I.C.S.
15. R. G. Grieve, Esq., C.I.E.
16. M.R.Ry. Rai Bahadur N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar Avargal.
17. T. G. Rutherford, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S. (*Secretary*).

11th March 1932]

DRAFT OF PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE'S REPLIES TO FRANCHISE COMMITTEE'S QUESTIONNAIRE.

I.—Provincial Legislatures.

1. *Extension of Franchise.*

Q. 1 (*a*).—According to figures supplied by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards, the franchise under the recently Amended District Municipalities Act and Local Boards Act will bring to the electoral rolls a total of 4,928,655 * voters. This is approximately 10·5 per cent of the population and is the nearest approach to adult suffrage so long as some property or tax qualification is adopted. A literacy qualification for men and women not otherwise qualified, if the qualifications suggested by this Committee in the answers to 2 (*d*) and 3 (*a*) are accepted, it is estimated will produce approximately another 390,000 voters † who are not otherwise qualified. There are at present 26,248 voters on the Madras City non-Muhammadan and Muhammadan rolls and it is anticipated the Committee's proposals in reply to 2 (*a*) will raise this to approximately 60,000. The percentage of the whole roll (5·37 million) to the population would be 11·5 or 23 per cent of the adult population. This franchise will allow of an automatic and gradual expansion as village panchayats are formed.

Q. 1 (*b*).—The Committee thinks that a considerable portion of this electorate may not at present be able to cast an intelligent vote: doubt has been expressed even about the capacity of the present electorate. It is hoped however that as the franchise is the same as that for the municipal councils and local boards, the electorate will be gradually educated by experience. Some of the members of the Committee both non-official and official feel that the Statutory Commission's proposed expansion of the electorate to 10 per cent of the population endorsed by the Franchise Sub-Committee of the Round Table Conference is too great having regard to the low standard of education, political or otherwise, in this Province.

Q. 1 (*c*).—The Committee considers that such an electorate will be administratively manageable, though much larger expenditure than has been incurred in the past will be necessary. So far in this Presidency the preparation, maintenance and revision of the electoral rolls for the Legislative Council and the arrangements for conducting elections have been carried out by the Revenue Department with, for the polling of votes, some assistance from officials of other departments in the districts and a very small non-official assistance. There has been employed under the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards for the past one year a special staff for the preparation of the new electoral rolls for the Local Boards and District Municipalities and by the end of March of the present year these rolls will be final

* 396,625 urban voters. 4,532,030 rural voters.

† Women 250,000 out of 355,000. Men 140.000 out of 269,400.

and ready for taking over for maintenance and revision. In the beginning some additional special staff will be required to prepare the final rolls for the Legislative Council on the new franchise in view of the inclusion of a large number of women and men on a literacy franchise; and the additions in Madras City due to a lower occupancy qualification. The Committee is inclined to consider that subsequently instead of the present system of triennial revision by the Revenue authorities with the employment of the special staff, that maintenance might be continuous and that it might in respect of the rural areas be made part of jamabandi or the annual settlement of the revenue accounts village by village, which is a feature of this Province, when the village officers should report all changes and corrections to the Jamabandi Officer and anybody desiring to have his name entered on the roll could come forward with a petition for the same and orders would be passed there and then. Some addition to the permanent revenue staff in the districts might be required for the maintenance of the roll. As regards polling an examination of the number of Government servants in three typical districts * (Guntur, Tanjore and Malabar) suggests that from 160 to 250 polling stations can be adequately named. It is anticipated there will be greater necessity for employing non-officials in connexion with the elections and about such employment some of the members of the Committee share the views of the Government of India expressed in paragraph 9 of their fifth Despatch on the Reforms, dated 23rd April 1919, and also those of the Simon Commission to be found in paragraph 105, Volume II of the Report. Still they consider that risks must be taken if any large expansion of the electorate is to take place. The elections under the new franchise of the amended Local Boards Act have not yet been held but it is expected there will not be any serious breakdown.

Q. 1 (*d*).—No answer is required.

Q. 1 (*e*).—The Committee does not consider it to be either practicable or desirable at present to enlarge the electoral roll still further. It considers that until education of the electors is further advanced and the administrative machine tested out for the proposed increase from 1·47 millions to 5·37 millions it would be a great mistake to enlarge the electoral roll any further either by direct franchise or by the method suggested in question 1 (*f*).

Q. 1 (*f*).—The Committee has perused the information furnished regarding the electoral system of groups and the representation of primary voters by secondary electors adopted in some of the near eastern countries and is of opinion that it is not suitable for this Province in its present stage of development. The people of this Province have

* Number of public servants including local board employees available.

	Drawing Rs. 35 and over (1).	Number in (1) drawing Rs. 50 and over.	Number in (1) drawing Rs. 100 and over.
Guntur	1,119	460	241
Tanjore	1,822	787	343
Malabar	2,237	831	389

11th March 1932]

become accustomed to the procedure and machinery of direct elections. Since 1870 there have been direct elections for the Municipal Councils and for Local Boards from 1884. Up to 1930 election to the District Board was indirect and by and from the members of the Taluk Board and the system was not satisfactory. Direct election to the District Board on a territorial basis was one of the chief amendments to the Local Boards Act in 1930. The history of the Legislatures is also one of development from indirect to direct election. Local Boards and Municipal elections are all based on an individual exercise of the franchise and as it is proposed to introduce the same franchise so as to include 23 per cent of the adult population it is not considered advisable further to burden the administration with the working of a complicated system of indirect adult suffrage. The great majority of the members of the public and associations who have sent in replies to the questionnaire are also against this system. If election to the Council should be indirect through secondaries, the unit for primaries should be not an artificial group but the village. Faction over Local Board elections is already rife in villages in many parts of the country and it is anticipated that election even by the village as a whole of secondary voters would stir up still more trouble in the villages. The Committee considers that the difficulties of forming satisfactory groups in villages, bringing them together to elect their secondaries or deputies, deciding of disputes as regards such elections and of finding the machinery for all these purposes would more than counterbalance any supposed advantage of the system. If elections for secondaries are not held more or less simultaneously and objections decided promptly, the final roll of secondary electors may be held up indefinitely. It is felt that however carefully the group elections may be conducted there will always be some doubt as to the genuineness of the elections. The group system complicated as it is even when applied to a homogeneous population will become greatly more complicated on account of the fact that the population in our villages is almost everywhere divided into different communities each with its own caste and communal hierarchy and discipline and also on account of the fact that it is proposed to have different communal electorates. What, however, the Committee considers the gravest objection of all is that the group system would greatly facilitate manipulation and corrupt practices both in forming the groups of primary electors and in the election of the secondaries. The comparative fewness of the number of secondaries would also expose them to corruption.

Q. 1 (*g*).—Please see reply to (*f*).

Q. 1 (*h*).—The Committee considers that it will be a retrograde step to go back to indirect voting through secondaries for all constituencies. As already pointed out in the answer to clause (*f*) the people have become accustomed to direct voting and an indirect suffrage such is this system proposes will not be appreciated.

Q. 1 (*i*) *and* (*j*).—In view of our answers to (*f*) and (*h*) no reply is necessary.

[11th March 1932

2. *Franchise qualifications.*

Q. 2 (*a*).—The examination of the figures under the present franchise does not show any marked disparity in the operation of the franchise qualification in urban as compared with rural areas. The population of the urban areas including Madras City is just under 8 per cent of the whole, while the electors in these areas are 13·6 per cent of the total on the present roll. Although the franchise minimum property qualification of Rs. 3 taxation in municipalities and Rs. 6 in Madras City appears to be less than the Rs. 10 rural qualification, actually it normally represents a higher standard, especially if it represents profession tax. The Committee's proposals for the lowering of the qualification will, it is considered, rectify any disparity. Urban voters will be 8·4 of the whole electoral roll with some addition for literates which is not readily calculable.

Q. 2 (*b*).—The Committee is not in favour of having different qualifications for different communities in this Province. The minority communities are relatively so small, that no differentiation in franchise qualification short of adult suffrage within the communities only would benefit them materially in joint electorates and in principle differentiation seems to be undesirable. The Committee believes that as regards Muhammadans and Christians the extension of the franchise proposed will give them approximately proportionally equal voting strength with the majority community. As regards Muhammadans the Local Board electorate rolls show a voting strength of 3·6 as against a population strength of 3·8. As regards depressed classes, the figures for three districts of voters on the new local board rolls show that there will be a very considerable increase in their numbers; according to figures furnished to the Simon Commission there are only 56,800 voters on the present Legislative Council rolls who belong to the depressed classes whereas for the three average districts referred the total as per proposed franchise is 36,641. There are 25 districts in the Province plus Madras City and it is anticipated there will be about 300,000 depressed classes electors in all.

Q. 2 (*c*).—The possession or occupation of property of some kind or the assessment to tax as evidence of property or income is in the opinion of the Committee a suitable test of fitness for the franchise. It does not consider that a claim to be in receipt of any particular wages or income incapable of easy verification unless evidenced by assessment to some tax or payment of land revenue or cesses and therefore acceptable as a franchise qualification. The Committee has in reply to the question regarding labour representation recommended the formation of special electorates of certain classes of workers drawing Rs. 15 per month in wages or more, but in this particular case the claim to income can, it is believed, be checked by employers' returns under the Factory Act. The Committee has recommended the adoption of the Municipal and Local Boards property qualifications for the franchise, which are wider in scope as regards the meaning of property than the existing qualifications for the Legislative Council franchise, but is of

11th March 1932]

opinion that the provision in the Local Boards Act by which lessees are included in the electoral roll requires more precise definition with a view to prevent the manufacture of bogus leases for the purpose of procuring the registration of electors not really qualified.

Q. 2 (*d*).—The majority of the Committee is in favour of introducing a qualification based on education independently of property and suggests for men as a standard the possession of a completed S.S.L.C. and for women ability to read and write in any language. The Committee does not consider it desirable to flood the electorate with males of a low standard of general education who have no property or taxation qualification, but as regards women it considers a low literacy standard a better method of bringing a considerably increased number of women on the rolls than dragging them on as wives or widows of male voters.

Q. 2 (*e*).—All the Committee are in favour of retaining the existing military service qualification and do not think it necessary to include service in the Auxiliary and Territorial Forces in view of their other proposals for the extension of the electorate.

3. *Women's suffrage.*

Q. 3 (*a*).—Though for the whole of India, the proportion of female to male voters is 1 to 26, in Madras it is 1 to 10 already. The Committee is not in favour of increasing the number of women voters by enfranchising women merely because they are wives or widows of men who are or have been entitled to vote under the property qualification, but a majority of the Committee is in favour of a low educational qualification for women aged 21 and over in addition to and independent of the ordinary property qualifications. It is expected that if their proposals for widening the franchise are accepted the probable number of women to be enfranchised will be at least 900,000. The Committee consider that to bring wives of male electors on to the roll would at present in the majority of cases merely mean increasing the husband's vote and also that a very large number of the women would not use their vote at all and the rolls would merely be swollen to the embarrassment of the Government and of candidates for election without any practical benefit. The advance now proposed coupled with provisions to ensure the representation of women by women in the Legislative Council is considered sufficient for the present. It is estimated on the basis of the number of girls in schools reading up to the V class that for some considerable time the literacy qualification for women will add at least 25,000 electors a year.

Q. 3 (*b*).—The Committee is entirely against the proposed system of group representation for reasons already given and does not think it will be any more suitable for women than for men.

Q. 3 (*c*).—The Committee is definitely against co-option by the Legislative Council. It prefers the setting apart for women of seats in selected urban areas, the electorate for the purpose in each such area being the electors belonging to that area on the rolls of all the general constituencies.

[11th March 1932

4. *Representation of the Depressed Classes.*

Q. 4. It is anticipated that the proposed widening of the franchise would bring on to the rolls about 300,000 voters of the depressed classes as against the present 58,000. The Committee is unanimously of opinion that even with the increased number of voters the depressed classes will not be able to secure election without special protection. If this special protection takes the form of reservation of seats in joint electorates the majority of the Committee is of opinion that they will not be able to secure representatives of their own choice. The majority of the Committee therefore think that the depressed classes should be formed into a separate electorate and elect their own representatives, and in addition is also inclined to suggest as a special case in order to prevent perpetuation of a communal separation that they should have a vote in the general electorate as well so that as their present disabilities disappear their special representation may be reduced and eventually disappear altogether. As the depressed classes are generally resident in cheris apart from the rest of the villagers, the group system of representation if tired at all could be most easily applied to them, but the Committee prefer the method of direct choice by an electorate which has the same qualifications as the rest of the electors in the country. The definition of Adi-Dravida in the Local Boards Act as supplemented by the notification in G.O. No. 1541, L. & M., dated 7th May 1931, sufficiently covers, in the opinion of the Committee, those who are the depressed classes. It covers all the sections and sub-sections of the untouchables.

5. *Representation of Labour.*

Q. 5.—The Committee consider that as employers are represented in special interest constituencies, such as the Chambers of Commerce, it is desirable that labour should also have an opportunity to make its voice heard and should be treated as a special interest. Though the idea of making registered labour unions the constituency is tempting, the Committee consider that in Madras Province at least the unions so far organized and registered are too much based on individual works or factories to be really representative of industrial labour as a whole, and further that their development at present is such that the railway unions would swamp the others and monopolise the representation. It is further doubted whether prospective candidates would be really representatives of labour. The Committee prefers to give representation to Labour by forming labour constituencies in special selected centres of industrial population, the qualification for franchise being the receipt of a minimum monthly wage of Rs. 15 and being a worker in a factory coming within the purview of the Indian Factories Act in the selected areas. The Committee consider that as certain returns have to be made under the Factories Act by the employers the preparation of an electoral roll of this kind would not be difficult. In the case of unorganized labour such as agriculture and plantation, the Committee considers that no special representation is required *qua* labour. A great bulk of the agricultural labour is part-time and the

11th March 1932]

labourers have themselves small interests in land and on the lower franchise now proposed would come on to the electoral roll. Their interests are not generally dissimilar from those of their employers. The depressed classes form perhaps the biggest section of agricultural labour and adequate measures for their representation are already suggested. Plantation labour also is practically entirely drawn from the depressed classes and as much of it floats back and from the villages its organization as a special interest would be difficult.

5 (A). *Representation of Special Interests.*

Q. 5 (A).—The Committee is in favour of the retention of representation of the following special interests:—

Universities, European Trade and Commerce, Indian Trade and Commerce, Planting, Landholders, Nattukottai Nagarathars. There is no specially important mining interests within the Province requiring special representation.

The Committee is of opinion that the Madras Trades Association, a special constituency, should be merged into a European Trade and Commerce constituency in which members of both the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association woud have a right to be electors.

II. THE FEDERAL LEGISLATURE.

6. *Allocation of Seats to British Indian Provinces.*

Q. 6 (*a*).—The Committee does not agree with the proposal of the Federal Structure Committee, but considers that the provincial representatives to the upper chamber should be directly elected by a limited electorate of qualifications calculated to ensure the inclusion therein of persons of wealth, education, administrative experience, etc., and that the method of election should be by proportional representation by the single transferable vote. The Committee, two dissenting, was further of opinion that Muslims should be elected by a separate Muslim electorate of the same kind and that no other minority community need be specially provided for.

Q. 6 (*b*).—The Committee considers that the franchise qualifications for the federal and provincial legislatures should be different. For the federal lower chamber it is suggested that the present franchise qualification may be reduced so as to double the number of electors and that for the federal upper chamber an electorate similar to the one at present existing for the Council of State supplemented by provision for the inclusion of persons with administrative experience referred to in the answer to *Q.* 6 (*a*), such as ex-Judges, ex-Collectors and officers of similar standing.

Q. 6 (*c*).—The Committee is of opinion that election to the lower chamber of the federal legislature should continue to be by territorial constituencies consisting of qualified voters who would cast their vote directly for the candidate of their choice. With the increased number of seats proposed for Madras it is considered that at any rate for the

non-Muhammadan seats, constituencies of one or at the most two districts may be formed. Muhammadans and Indian Christians with their separate electorates, if maintained, would be no worse off than they are at present and so far as the Committee can ascertain general opinion is in favour of direct choice of the candidate with all its attendant difficulties rather than indirect election.

7. *Representation of Women, Labour and Depressed Classes.*

Q. 7.—As regards the upper chamber, the Committee is of opinion that the only community whose representation should be safeguarded is the Muslims, and the only interest requiring special provision for its representation is that of women. As for the lower chamber, the Committee is of opinion that representation should be secured to women, labour, depressed classes, Indian Commerce, Landholders and also to Muslims, Europeans and Indian Christians.

S. MUTHIAH,
Chairman.

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide Item IV—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 75 supra.]

Letter from T. G. RUTHERFORD, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public (Franchise) Department, to the Secretary, Indian Franchise Committee, Camp India, dated Fort St. George, the 22nd February 1932, No. 283-1.

In addition to the subjects specifically referred to in the Franchise Committee's questionnaire the Provincial Franchise Committee has also discussed

(1) whether there should be a Second Chamber or not in the Provincial Legislature,

(2) the qualifications for candidates for the Provincial and Federal Legislatures,

(3) the size of the Provincial Legislative Council, the Chairman of your Committee having intimated that these matters will probably be discussed with it and the Provincial Government.

2. In regard to the Second Chamber the majority of the Committee were against a Second Chamber for the Provincial Legislature.

3. In regard to qualifications for candidates the recommendations of the Committee are as follows:—

General electorate, Planting, South Indian Chamber of Commerce, Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association—No change in present rules.

For Universities seat, candidates to be on the roll of any electorate, general or special.

For landholders constituencies, candidates to be registered in the electoral roll of *any* landholders' constituency within the Province.

For Labour constituencies, candidates to be registered on the roll

11th March 1932]

For women's seats, any women registered on *any* electorate within the Province may be a candidate.

For European Trade and Commerce, no change except that the present separate rolls of the Madras Chamber of Commerce and Madras Trades' Association should be combined into one electoral roll and the candidates shall be registered as an elector on that roll.

Federal Lower Chamber.—No change is recommended in the present rules for the Legislative Assembly elections except that a candidate should be on the electoral roll of any general constituency within the province of the Federal Lower Chamber.

Federal Upper Chamber.—No change in the present rules for the Council of State except that there should be no sex disqualification. The candidate to be on the electoral roll of any constituency of the Upper Chamber within the province if more than one constituency is formed.

4. *Disqualifications of candidates.*—The Committee recommends that in place of the present disqualification on account of conviction for offence in the Electoral Rules, the wording of section 55 (1) of the Madras Local Boards Act should be substituted. The section runs as follows:—

"A person who has been sentenced by a criminal court to transportation or to imprisonment for a period of more than six months for any offence other than an offence of a political character or an offence not involving moral delinquency (such senteuce not having been reversed or the offence pardoned) shall be disqualified for election while undergoing sentence and for five years from the date of the expiration of the sentence."

5. The Committee's proposal for the size of the Provincial Legislative Council is 220 members, with a composition as follows:—

General.	
Non-Muhammadans	124
Muslims	21
Indian Christians	11
Depressed classes	25
Europeans	3
Anglo-Indians	2
Special interests.	
Women	10
Landholders	12
Labour	3
Universities	1
European Trade and Commerce	3
Indian Trade and Commerce	* 3
Planting	2

* South Indian Chamber of Commerce 2
Nattukkottai Nagarathar's Association ... ...

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 12th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patnaik Mahasayo, Sriman M. G.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Law and Order—General

Number of peaceful picketers injured by lathi charge since January 1931 and the action, if any, of the Government on the reply of the Secretary of State for India.

* 1005 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the number of peaceful picketers injured by lathi charges is in this Presidency since the commencement of the civil disobedience movement in January 1932; and

(*b*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in pursuance of the reply given on or about the 9th February 1932 by the Secretary of State for India on the subject of lathi charges on peaceful picketers?

A.—(*a*) The Government do not accept the assumption that any person not a member of an unlawful assembly or an assembly likely to disturb the public tranquillity has been injured in a lathi charge.

(*b*) The Government have already issued such instructions as they consider necessary in regard to the forcible dispersal of unlawful assemblies.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know whether there have not been hundreds of instances of picketing both in the city and in the mufassal which has not ended in violence except on the part of the Police? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir. "

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I ask whether the Government have not received complaints that the Police charged with lathis persons who were not members of unlawful assemblies? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We have received some complaints; we are making enquiries into those allegations."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know whether the complainants will be allowed to be present at the time of any enquiry the Government may hold? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" My hon. Friend has brought to the notice of the Government certain incidents; we have sent the complaint to the District Magistrate; after enquiry by the District Magistrate, we will receive a report."

12th March 1932]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I enquire what the Government have to say with regard to the case of Dr. Paton ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " That question does not arise. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know, Mr. President, whether my question is not in order ? I seek the protection of the Chair. "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " As a matter of fact, the hon. Member Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar asked a number of questions on that subject; they are being answered. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think this question does arise."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Dr. Paton was not dealt with individually; he got mixed up in an unlawful assembly, which was in course of dispersal. "

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Was not Dr. Paton beaten by the Police ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " The Police had to disperse the crowd by force. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Why did the Government withdraw the prosecution against Dr. Paton if he was a member of an unlawful assembly ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Dr. Paton happened to be in the crowd; it was becoming boisterous and the Police had to disperse the crowd by force. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" If Dr. Paton was a member of an unlawful assembly, why was the case against him withdrawn ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " The other day I gave the reasons why that case was withdrawn. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Any further reasons ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " No, Sir. "

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" May I know whether the Secretary of State was informed either by cable or otherwise about the withdrawal of Dr. Paton's case ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I must ask for notice of the question. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I enquire whether it is not a fact that, apart from one man who was killed the other day at Tiruppur, another person was maimed and is unable to move about ? Will the hon. Member say how he happened to lose his leg ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " We issued a Press Communiqué on the incidents that occurred at Tiruppur. "

[12th March 1932

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" While charging Dr. Paton, did the Government include it in the charges, that he was a member of an unlawful assembly ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " He was in the crowd and it had to be dispersed by force. "

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" With reference to answer (b), may I ask whether the order of the Government, dated 15th January was communicated to the Inspector-General of Police and what action did the Inspector-General take upon it ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Those orders were communicated not only to the Inspector-General of Police but also to all District Magistrates. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" If Dr. Paton was a member of an unlawful assembly, may I know whether all the formalities that have to be gone through before the crowd was dispersed, were gone through? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have already answered that he was in the crowd and the crowd had to be dispersed by force. "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" My question has not been answered. Did the Police go through all the formalities which have to be gone through before they disperse unlawful assemblies ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I think so. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I enquire whether any other people were beaten at the time when Dr. Paton was beaten ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I must ask for notice of the question. "

Alleged barbarities caused by the Police in the Presidency.

*1006 Q.—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in Cannanore as a result of lathi charge several people were knocked down and several of them fell down senseless and that even after they fell down they were beaten by the Police; and

(b) whether the attention of the Government has been called to the report of the barbarities caused by the Police in Madras and in the mufassal; if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to rectify the excesses of the Police?

A.—(a) The only information the Government have is that contained in the answer to Question No. 832 to which the hon. Member is referred. The Government have called for a report.

12th March 1932]

(*b*) The Government do not know to what report of barbarities the hon. Member refers. In all cases where death or serious injury is caused in the dispersal of unlawful assemblies a magisterial enquiry is held. No case of barbarity has come to the notice of the Government and the Government repudiate the suggestion that the Police habitually make use of force in excess of the requirements of the situation. Reports in the press of incidents in which excessive force is alleged to have been used have been found on enquiry to be exaggerated or untrue. If in any individual case it is proved that excessive force has been used, the Government will not fail to take suitable action.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether in connection with the incident of the man who was maimed at Tiruppur, any enquiry was held by the Magistrate under the orders of the Government and, if so, what is the result of that enquiry ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I should like to have notice of the question."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" It is stated is answer (*b*) that ' reports in the press of incidents in which excessive force is alleged to have been used have been found on enquiry to be exaggerated or untrue.' Did the Government take any action in respect of people who are responsible for sending such exaggerated reports ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The Government are contradicting such reports in their Press Communiqués."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" With reference to answer (*b*) that the Government will not fail to take suitable action in any case proved that excessive force has been used, may I ask whether any opportunity is given to the complainant to adduce evidence when any enquiry is held either by the Collector or by anybody else ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" It is open to the Collector to ask anybody he likes."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I enquire whether the Government will hold enquiries into those cases in which the Editor of the ' Swarajya ' says that excessive force was used ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Whenever such cases are reported in the press, after making inquiries we issue a Press Communiqué."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Do the Government think that it is enough if they issue Press Communiqué week after week denying such allegations ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" We are saying nothing but the truth. If after enquiry, we find that press reports are false, we are bound to contradict them."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I enquire how the Government arrive at the truth ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " *We ask the District Magistrates and they report to Government* after making enquiries, if necessary."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—" Do not the Government think that truth will probably be found if an open enquiry is held ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " The Government think it is not necessary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask whether these Press Communiqués are issued in order to do propaganda work on the Government side ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " No, Sir; these Communiqués give the facts of the cases."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Will the hon. the Member be pleased to state the nature of the enquiries held by the District Magistrates ? Do they call parties to let in evidence and whether they come to judicial findings on the matters they are asked to enquire about ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " The District Magistrates make such enquiries as are necessary in each case."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the Government does not feel called upon to hold an open enquiry if there is conflict between the Magistrate's report and that of responsible journals ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " No, Sir."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state whether the Government have received the report of the enquiry with reference to Mr. K. Subba Rao and O. P. Ramaswami ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I understand the report has been received and it is under consideration by the Government."

Beating of a volunteer named Srinivasan for picketing at ' Benares Stores.'

* 1007 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Srinivasan, volunteer, who picketed the shop at ' Benares Stores, ' was beaten with lathi by two sergeants and beaten even after he fell down;

(*b*) whether the water hose was turned on him as he would not get up; and

(*c*) whether he had a cut on the face and injuries all over his

A.—(*a*) Lathis were used in the forcible dispersal of Srinivasa Rao and four others who were picketing the Benares Stores on 14th January 1932 and refused to disperse when ordered to do so. Srinivasa Rao lay down on the road deliberately and shouted boycott slogans. He was not beaten when on the ground.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) He was treated for contusions on the body but did not sustain any injury to his face. None of the injuries were serious and he was discharged from the Congress hospital the following day.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" With reference to answer (*b*), may I enquire under what provision of law, water-hose is turned on volunteers ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " That is the method used in many countries for dispersing crowds forcibly."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Have the Government exhausted all civilized methods of Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " It is one of the civilized methods followed for dispersing crowds."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The question refers to the law of this country and not to the practice in other countries. May I ask if the laws of this Government permit the use of water-hoses ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " There is no provision of law which does not permit it."

Alleged assault by the police of Mr. R. Satyanarayanamurthi and two others.

* 1008 *Q.*—Mr. C. INDRAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on the 10th January 1932 a posse of Reserve constables accompanied by the District Superintendent of Police and Circle Inspector entered the Hardinge Town Hall at Tanuku and set fire to a thatched hut which is located within its precincts;

(*b*) if so, under whose orders and under what law or Ordinance was such action taken;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that on the same date and at the same time the Police gave a lathi charge on Mr. R. Satyanarayanamurthi while he was returning from the tennis court;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that his left hand is dislocated on account of the severe blows dealt by the Police;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that he and two others were brought in a motor bus from the " Hardinge Hall " and beaten in the main bazaar; and

[12th March 1932

(*f*) whether it is a fact that all the above three persons were wrongfully detained in the local sub-jail and were released at 12 o'clock in the night?

A.—(*a*) The District Superintendent of Police dispersed a party of volunteers on January 10th at Tanuku who were demonstrating near the Town Hall. The Town Hall was not entered and no shed was set on fire.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) & (*d*) No one returning from the tennis court was beaten and no one sustained any dislocation of the hand.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) No.

Alleged Police excesses on civil resisters.

* 1009 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state with reference to the answers given on 24th February 1932, to questions Nos. 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 840, 842—

(*a*) whether the Government have called for the information required by the said questions;

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to place the information on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take on the same?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The information asked for in question No. 840 was given in the Council on the 24th February 1932. As regards the other questions the Government have called for information and on receipt, will consider the question of placing it on the table of the House.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" I got information at Mangalore that the report has been sent up to the Government by the Collector. May I know where it is held up ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We have not yet received the report."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I enquire whether the matter will be expedited ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I shall consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Use of lathis by the Police.

* 1010 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state how many lathis are now in use in the Police department throughout the Presidency and how many in each centre?

A.—The Government have no information as to the exact number.

12th March 1932]

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask what is the cost of the lathis supplied to the Police ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " No cost was incurred separately."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" What is the number of lathis indented for ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " It is one of the things supplied to the constables every year. No special expenditure was incurred on this account."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know the cost of the canes newly supplied ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Canes do not cost much; the Police Department purchase the number of canes required, from the money allotted to the Department."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know whether every constable is supplied with a lathi as well as a cane? In what cases is the lathi is to be used and in what cases cane is to be used ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " The Government passed orders recently on the matter; we are now trying to disperse the crowd by force by using canes."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" May I know the size of the cane? I find very little difference between the canes and the lathis ? "

Enquiry into the conduct of Mr. Dodwell, I.C.S., Subdivisional Magistrate, Tellicherry.

* 1011 *Q.*—Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether any inquiry has been made into the alleged conduct of Mr. Dodwell, I.C.S., Subdivisional Magistrate, Tellicherry, in causing the removal of the ' Thali ' of Mrs. Prabhu, and in making certain objectionable remarks in the open court at the time of that incident?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the Government's Press Communiqué No. 14, dated the 22nd February 1932 (copy annexed).

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state whether the attention of the Subdivisional Magistrate was drawn to the fact that it would be violating the religious principles of the Hindus, when the lady was asked to remove the thali ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " The Magistrate did not realize it at that time; afterwards he realized it and he has expressed his regret."

* Printed as Appendix I on pages 179–180 infra.

[12th March 1932

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that the members of the Bar present at the court at that time, drew the attention of the Subdivisional Magistrate to the sacred nature and the importance in which the thali is held?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " It is unfortunate that the incident occurred; the Government have already issued a Press Communiqué on the matter and the Magistrate has expressed his regret."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know whether it is a case of want of judicial balance rather than an error of judgment?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " The hon. Member may draw any inference from the Press Communiqué issued by the Government."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, what reparation has been made for the injustice done to the lady?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " A Press Communiqué has been issued and the Magistrate has expressed regret."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I enquire whether Mr. Dodwell said that the apology might be communicated to Mrs. Prabhu herself?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " He sent it to the Government."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state what action he proposes to take against the journal which published a report contrary to that received by the Government ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I do not understand the question."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Some papers which the hon. Member reads or does not read, published a different story from what took place in court. Does the hon. Member propose to take any action against those journals?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " We do not propose to take any action."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the fact that attention was drawn to the sacred nature of the thali, do the Government seriously believe that it is a case of error of judgment or of wilful perversity ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Whatever the Government believe or do not believe, as I have already said, the Magistrate has apoligized, and we have given the widest publicity to that apology. The Government have further expressed their displeasure at the action of the Magistrate."

12th March 1932]

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—" May I know if that apology will be communicated to Mrs. Prabhu?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " No, Sir."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—" Why not?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " It is not in the public interest to do so."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" If there was an Indian in the place of Mr. Dodwell and an European lady in the place of Mrs. Prabhu, will not the Government deal with the officer more severely than in this case?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— ' No, Sir; no racial discrimination will be made."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I enquire whether the return of the thali by the District Magistrate, was accepted by the lady in question?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " It was returned as she refused to take it."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know 1
whether they will return the thali with the apology of Mr. Dodwell?" a.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " No, Sir; the Government do not think it necessary to communicate the apology of Mr. Dodwell to Mrs. Prabhu; we have given wide publicity to it in our Press Communiqué."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether Government realize that the thali is not a toy to be handled by anybody?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " The Government do realize it, and I have already said that nobody is more sorry than Government that such an unfortunate incident has occurred."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the hon. Member to consider whether the attachment of the thali is one of the ways of realizing the fine?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " That is a matter of opinion, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the same Magistrate who put Mrs. Prabhu in the C class on the present occasion put her in the A class on a former occasion?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I know nothing about that. That question may be addressed to my hon. Colleague, the Law Member, who is in charge of the Jail Portfolio."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" In the Press Communiqué the Government say that 'the seizure of the thali is not expressly prohibited by the Code of Criminal Procedure or the Criminal Rules of Practice.' Will the hon. the Home Member consider the question of amending the Criminal Procedure Code in order to make it illegal?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—
" The question is under consideration."

The hon. the President :—" The answer is there in the Communiqué itself."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I know the persons who were present in court, whose statements are alleged to have been taken, their status and their position in life?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—
" I think one was Mr. D'Cruz, another was a Sub-Inspector of Police and two clerks of the court."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" As regards the nature of the disciplinary action which the Government have already taken, was it made with a view to censure the officer, and is that the only action the Government propose to take, or do they propose to deal with the officer any further?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—
" No, Sir, I have mentioned the action the Government have taken."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" How long has Mr. Dodwell been in this country as a Civilian officer, Sir?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—
" That information may be obtained from the Civil List; I think he has been here for about ten years or so."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" Does the Government believe that a Civilian officer who has been administering justice in this country for ten long years cannot realize that the thali is a sacred symbol?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—
" What is the use of asking whether the Government does or does not believe, when I have already stated that it is a very unfortunate incident and an incident which ought not to have happened."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member instead of all these empty apologies and the returning of the thali, whether any reparation would not be made substantially, that is to say, in the shape of damages, to the lady?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—
" No such thing is necessary at all."

12th March 1932]

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know whether, in view of the fact that Mrs. Prabhu is placed in the C class, and no papers are allowed to her, a copy of the Government Communiqué will be sent to her along with the thali? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" I am prepared to consider the suggestion, Sir."

Alleged order of the Joint Magistrate, Tellicherry, to remove the 'thali' of an Indian lady.

* 1012 *Q*.—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Joint Magistrate of Tellicherry convicted Mrs. Surendranath Prabhu to imprisonment and fine towards the end of January 1932;

(*b*) whether he ordered her sacred thali to be removed for paying the fine and when she protested, ordered the constable to remove the same from her person by force; and

(*c*) whether the Government approve of the conduct of the said Magistrate in so ordering the removal of a wearing apparel of an Indian lady; if not, what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the Government's Press Communiqué, dated the 22nd February 1932, annexed to the answer to question No. 1011.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the very strong feeling expressed in this House, may I know whether the Government will now consider it advisable to convey the apology to Mrs. Prabhu? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" The question has been asked already and I said that I am prepared to consider if a copy of the Press Communiqué may be sent."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether this is the first occasion when Mr. Dodwell has been reprimanded by the Government? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" I must ask for notice of the question; but so far as I know, I am not aware of any such previous thing."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know whether there have not been such repeated insults offered to Indian women since this incident, as for instance, the case in the Vellore jail where *kumkum* is not allowed to women prisoners, and their bangles are broken immediately they enter the jails? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
"What happened in Vellore jail must be addressed to my hon. Colleague, the Law Member."

[12th March 1932

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"Did the Government issue any instructions to the effect that in Civil Disobedience cases fines imposed should be collected on the spot, immediately?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I do not think the supplementary question arises out of this thali incident as referred to in question No. 1012."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"The thali was removed, Sir, for the purpose of collecting the fine immediately."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Will the hon. Member please repeat his question?"

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"Have the Government issued any instructions that fines imposed in Civil Disobedience cases should be collected immediately, on the spot?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"We have issued no instruction, Sir."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"Have the Government enquired whether Mr. Dodwell in any previous instance collected the fine on the spot?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There is no necessity for that kind of investigation, because the Government have come to the definite conclusion that this is an unfortunate incident, and Mr. Dodwell has already expressed his regret."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"In this case has the Government ascertained whether Mr. Dodwell issued any warrant of attachment for the collection of the fine?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There is no necessity for investigating that matter, because on the main issue I have answered already."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether there is any objection on the part of the Government or on the part of Mr. Dodwell to convey this apology to Mrs. Prabhu; and if there is any objection, what it is?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is in the public interests to see that the dignity of the judiciary is maintained. He was the Magistrate, who convicted the accused, and it would not do for the Government to ask the Magistrate to convey to Mrs. Prabhu his apology. Anyhow, we have published it in the Press Communiqué and my friend has made a suggestion and I am prepared to consider that suggestion."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether the statements taken from those persons present in the Court would be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is not necessary."

12th March 1932]

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" Has not Mr. Dodwell himself requested the Government to communicate the apology to the lady? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I have already answered the question."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" I am sorry, Sir, I was not present then."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" Does not the Government think that in view of the fact that it was an insult personally offered to Mrs. Prabhu, it is incumbent on the Government to see that the apology is made by the Magistrate to Mrs. Prabhu and that it is done?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " I have already answered it."

Result of the enquiry into the 'thali' incident of Tellicherry.

* 1013 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the result of the enquiry made by the Government in regard to the incident of the removal of the *thali* of Mrs. L. S. Prabhu in Tellicherry?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the Government's Press Communiqué No. 14, dated the 22nd February 1932 (copy annexed to answer to question No. 1011.)

Prohibition of villagers from advocating the use of swadeshi goods.

* 1014 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that notices have been issued to all village officers in all districts that they should report to the Government all cases of people who are advocating the use of swadeshi goods and preaching against drink;

(*b*) if so, under what provisions of law are these an offence; and

(*c*) whether the Government have clearly demarcated the difference between the acts amounting to patriotism and acts amounting to violation of law?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have not issued any such notices but will enquire of the subordinate authorities.

(*c*) It is for the courts to decide whether the law has been violated.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Are the Government aware, Sir, that the Police are compelling people who are letting out their premises for the location of khaddar shops to give notice to the lessees to vacate the shops? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :— " The Government are not aware of it."

[12th March 1932

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Will Government make enquiries in the matter? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " Certainly, Sir."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Are Government aware that the notice boards exhibited at the khaddar shops and in some cases the instruments they use like the rod for measuring cloths, scissors, etc., have been seized by the Police? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I have promised to make enquiries? "

Agriculture

Staff employed on the potato farm at Nanjanad, the Nilgiris.

* 1015 *Q.*—Capt. W. E. WINTER: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of persons employed in the Government Potato Farm at Nanjanad, the Nilgiris, together with their designations, salaries, allowance, service and qualifications;

(*b*) the amount of receipts and expenditure for the past one year;

(*c*) what the remarks made by the Auditors are about its working;

(*d*) who the Auditors are; and

(*e*) if the Government have no information, whether they will be pleased to call for the information with reference to clauses (*a*) to (*d*)?

A.—(*a*) The staff consists of two Farm Managers and one Store-keeper. *Details regarding their service, salaries,* qualifications, etc., are given in the statement[a] appended.

(*b*) Receipts for 1930–31—Rs. 3,937–6–11.
Expenditure for 1930–31—Rs. 15,016–4–6.

(*c*) The remarks of the auditors are not communicated to the Government.

(*d*) The accounts of the Farm are audited by the Accountant-General's staff.

(*e*) Information in regard to clause (*c*) has been called for.

Capt. W. E. WINTER:—" Will the hon. the Minister inform us whether he considers the expenditure on the maintenance of this farm is justified and whether the results have justified its maintenance? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" From a commercial point of view, I agree that the expenditure is not justified."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know what the commercial point of view is? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" To make the concern a paying one."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 180 infra.

12th March 1932]

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" Out of the Rs. 15,000 that is expended on the farm, Rs. 3,000 represents the salaries of the staff; what does the balance of Rs. 12,000 represent? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I would refer the hon. Member to the Annual Report of the Agricultural Research Station issued by the Agricultural Department."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I ask whether the commercial system of accounting is followed in this farm or any other system of accounting? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" The accounting is done by the staff of the Accountant-General."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" What is the system of accounts followed in the farm, commercial or non-commercial? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I must have notice of the question."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister whether he considers that this way of running the farm would in any way induce the neighbouring peasants to adopt the modern and scientific methods of cultivation, when they come to know from the way in which this farm is being conducted, that it is not profitable to adopt those modern methods? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Various forms of experiment are being carried on there, Sir. The purposes for which the farm exists are: (1) to import and grow disease-free potatoes of good varieties and to distribute them to the ryots for seed purposes at a reasonable price; (2) to experiment with the different kinds of manures to find out which are the best for the district; (3) to carry out various experiments with green manures, rotation of crops, etc., and (4) to encourage the ryots to adopt more up-to-date methods of cultivation and to grow better varieties of potatoes than they usually do."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" Has the hon. the Minister realized that the peasants cannot adopt these improved methods of cultivation if they find from the accounts of the Government that it is not profitable to adopt them because of the fact that the cost of production of a certain quantity is more than its market value? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I have referred to two different things, that the farm is carrying on experimental work and that it encourages the ryots to adopt better methods. As a matter of fact, in this case, the ryots are also being supplied with seeds."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask how long the farm will continue its work and when it was started? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" It was started in the year 1917, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether the remarks of the auditors have been received, and if they have been received, whether those remarks will be placed on the table of the House? "

[12th March 1932

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The remarks have not yet been received; and when they are received, I will consider the suggestion of my hon. friend."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" As a result of the 15 years' working of the farm, may I ask the Minister, if any results have been achieved and whether the Government are in a position to advise the ryots to adopt particular methods? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The ryots have benefited to this extent that they get better seeds and they are learning to grow crops in rotation."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Does the Government think that more and more useful purpose and utility will be served by the running of this farm, considering its expense for the past 15 years? Even after the researches, enquiries and investigations made all these years, have they not been able to arrive at any substantial results? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The ryots have been benefited by this farm."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask if the results achieved have been published anywhere and whether they are available to the public? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I may refer the hon. Member to the Annual Report of the Research Station issued by the Agricultural Department which contains detailed information about this."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Am I to take it, Sir, that experiments are being carried on for the past 15 years? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" In some directions experiments are still being carried on."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" In what directions do the experiments still remain to be carried on? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" I want notice."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether at any time the results got were different and better than they are now? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" The results may have varied."

Education

Curtailment of the course of instruction in Higher Elementary Training Schools.

* 1016 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been made to the Government that either the duration of the training course in Higher Elementary Training Schools should be reduced from 21 to 15 months or that the stipends should be restored to their original value; and

12th March 1932]

(*b*) whether the Government have considered this matter and come to any decision?

A.—(*a*) Representations have been made to Government for the reduction of the period of training in training schools and for the grant of stipends at the full rates.

(*b*) The Government have not found it possible to accept the suggestions.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"May I know the reason why Government did not find it possible to accept the suggestions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"The opinion is that unless better educational qualifications are insisted upon, it would be necessary to have the two years' course."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—"Whose opinion is it?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"It is the opinion of the departmental experts."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether it is not possible to have recruitment once in two years and pay them in full which would not be impairing the efficiency of the students?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"I do not know if that question has been examined."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"Will the hon. the Minister consider that question?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know from whom these representations have been received, and what are the grounds adduced?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"One of the representations received was from an hon. Member of this House. I may say for the information of the House, Sir, that I was waiting to see if the Retrenchment Committee would deal with this question. Now that they have not dealt with it, I shall go into the question once again in view of the representations made."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I ask whether any representation has been received from the Director of Public Instruction at the instance of the Muslim Education Committee to grant full stipends to Muslim training students?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"Nothing has been received, Sir. I was speaking only of the period of training, not about the rates of stipends."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"About the rates of stipends, what action has the Government taken on the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction in regard to Muslim students?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" No such recommendation has been received, by me yet."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the Director of Public Instruction has forwarded the wish of the Muslim Education Committee; if so, what action the Minister has taken? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I have not seen it yet."

Excise

Adulteration of liquor in South Kanara.

* 1017 *Q.*—Mr. M. S. SRESHTA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether representations have been received by the Government since 1st January 1931 that the liquor sold in arrack taverns in South Kanara is adulterated and diluted;

(*b*) what steps have been taken to remedy this state of things;

(*c*) whether surprise visits have been made to the arrack taverns by any of the officers of Government and samples taken and sent for analysis;

(*d*) what dates and at what times were such surprise visits paid during the last year and which taverns have been so visited;

(*e*) what impurities, if any, have been discovered on each occasion;

(*f*) whether representations have been made to the Government that arrack be sold in sealed bottles in taverns, in addition to its being sold in small quantities, an extra charge being made for the cost incurred by this method of sale;

(*g*) what action has been taken on these representations;

(*h*) whether representations have been made that distilleries be opened in South Kanara for the manufacture of liquor and power alcohol from cashew fruit;

(*i*) what action has been taken on these representations;

(*j*) whether the illicit distillation of liquor from cashew fruit has been on the increase or decrease in South Kanara during the last five years;

(*k*) whether there were distilleries some years ago in South Kanara; and

(*l*) if so, why they were discontinued?

A.—(*a*) Representations on the subject have been received from the hon. Member and Mr. J. A. Saldanha.

(*b*) *to* (*e*) The Government have called for a report.

(*f*) *to* (*i*) Yes. They are under consideration.

(*j*) *to* (*l*) The Government have called for a report.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33—*cont.*

DEMAND II—EXCISE—TRANSFERRED—*cont.*

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Discussion on Demand II will now continue." 11-: a.m.

Mr. G. SRIRAMULU:—" Mr. President, Sir, there is a considerable fall in the Excise revenue this year and it is supposed to be due to the civil disobedience movement and picketing. That is not the only cause for the fall in the Excise revenue. There is another latent cause which has been obtaining of late among the subordinate Excise officials. I can say with confidence that the Excise officers are also partly responsible for it and I believe that I can substantiate my statement with concrete examples. In some of the Telugu districts, namely, West Godavari and East Godavari, there are two sects of toddy drawers known as Setti Balijas alias Edigas and Kalalis alias Gowdas. The profession of the two communities is mainly that of tapping trees. The population of the two communities comes to about 10 lakhs and of these 5,000 or 6,000 are engaged in tapping trees. Even in the profession of tapping trees, there are two kinds. One is tapping sweet toddy and the other is fermented toddy.

" I shall deal first with sweet toddy, which is done by some for preparing jaggery, and out of jaggery, sugar, country liquor and some gas also are prepared at the Parry & Co. branch at Samalkote. These people (the said two communities) have been following this profession from time immemorial. Now, Sir, it is a question of seeing that a majority of these people who have been following that profession are not put to enormous and intolerable inconvenience by the subordinate Excise officials. The inconvenience caused by these Excise subordinate officers not only goes to prove that the said communities are oppressed but also to show how they contribute to the fall in Excise revenue. Every sweet toddy drawer is given a concession of two trees from which to draw fermented toddy for the consumption of his family, provided he pays the tree-tax and gets the trees numbered. For each tree, he will have to pay Rs. 3-14-0 a year as tax to the Government and if he applies for two trees, which he is allowed to tap, he will have to pay Rs. 7-12-0 to Government every year. Drawing of sweet toddy takes place from January to the end of May. Now there are nearly 5,000 or 6,000 people engaged in drawing sweet toddy and if every individual who draws sweet toddy pays tree-tax for the two trees that are allowed for him, the Government will realize about Rs. 50,000. I really doubt whether Government have been realizing this amount at all. They are not. As a matter of fact, the Excise Sub-Inspector at the connivance of the Inspectors are addicted to extract by force *mamul* which is otherwise called bribe, from these tree tappers. These Inspectors have free access to the sweet toddy drawers, because they have to supervise over these sweet toddy drawers and naturally these Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors get these bribes from the tappers. It is done in this way. These Excise Sub-Inspectors and their peons go to the villages, touring at

[Mr. G. Sriramulu] [12th March 1932

nights, and request the tappers to pay their usual mamul due to them every year, so that these sweet toddy drawing tappers need not pay the tree-tax to the Government and can draw fermented toddy as they please without being detected by these Excise Inspectors, as they are already bribed. In a vast majority of cases, these tappers are innocent and illiterate and even these bribes sometimes are not paid by them, because they are poor people. In such cases only comes the difficulty. Here again, I will give a concrete example how these tappers are inconvenienced. Within a range of the Palacole Sub-Inspector, in the Narsapur taluk, West Godavari district, there are three villages, Schikala, Ballipadu and Dagguluru. In the year 1931, the Sub-Inspector of Excise, Palacole range, it is said, demanded mamul from three individuals. But, unfortunately, three individuals, one from each of the said villages, refused to pay on account of their poverty and the result was that on the 5th May 1931 this Excise Sub-Inspector went to the place where those three individuals were engaged in drawing sweet toddy and asked them to get down all the pots from every tree, simply to inconvenience them. The Sub-Inspector could not even detect any fermented toddy. Even then they refused to pay the mamul, because they could not pay. Then the Sub-Inspector, it seems, has put up some false case against them, because the only other course for him to inconvenience them was to concoct cases against them. How could he concoct a case? Unfortunately for the Sub-Inspector, the pots which were said to contain fermented toddy had a hole at the bottom, and I do not understand how it could hold toddy. On the same day, 5th May, the people who were oppressed by the Excise Sub-Inspector, Palacole, sent in a petition to the District Magistrate, and to the superior Excise officers, but to no purpose. In the month of September or October 1931 the self-same people again put in a typed petition to the hon. the Minister of Excise, but unfortunately for these people, they did not receive any reply as yet. The mischief and inconvenience caused by the subordinate officers of Excise only go to make certain class of people to give up their profession which they have been following from time immemorial and also go to affect the purse of the Government. This much with regard to sweet toddy.

"Now, I come to fermented toddy. With regard to this, I may say that certain toddy shops are put into auction in the month of June or July and at the time of auction many renters will come to bid. In the first instance, some of the Excise Inspectors will influence some of the bidders to give them some bribe, by making them falsely believe that they would see that no competitors will come to bid. Unfortunately competitors will come and bid higher. If necessary, I can prove such cases. In one instance, an Excise Sub-Inspector of Palacole took a bribe of Rs. 100 from a certain renter and that renter could not purchase that shop. Subsequently there was a quarrel between them about the money which the Sub-Inspector had taken from the renter. The latter went even to the length of trying to send registered notices to the Sub-Inspector with regard to

12th March 1932] [Mr. G. Sriramulu]

the mischief played by him. I learnt that in the village of Perupalem, within the range of the jurisdiction of the Excise Sub-Inspector of Megalathurru, a tapper has drawn toddy from 50 or 60 trees which were numbered without having even paid the Government tax. When the Sub-Inspector was about to be transferred from that place, he thought that his successor would find fault with him and therefore he himself detected these trees and extracted a confession from the tapper. Unfortunately the Excise law is very harsh in this Presidency because whether there is actual confession or not, a word from the Excise officers to the effect that the accused had made a confession, would go harsh against the accused. In this particular case, it will be seen that the accused has no possibility of getting at the colours with which to number the trees; nor has he the plates which bear the numbers. Anyhow, that case was taken to the Sessions Court, West Godavari, and the learned Sessions Judge might have thought that the Excise department might have been the cause for the accused tapping the trees and in the end acquitted the accused. I think, my hon. Friend Rao Sahib Badeti Venkatramayya Nayudu defended the accused in that case.

"Let me refer to another incident in the Bhimavaram taluk. V. Chitalu, a renter of toddy shop for the current year, has been inconvenienced like anything by the Excise Sub-Inspector of Bhimavaram range. It is usual in that taluk for a renter who bids for a certain shop to get trees tapped for him even though they are within the jurisdiction of another shop. These Sub-Inspectors are also accustomed to take certain fixed bribe, annual bribe, for every shop. V. Chintalu has been troubled by the Excise Sub-Inspector of Bhimavaram because he wanted to get the trees marked for his use in the jurisdiction of another shop. For this it is said that the Suh-Inspector wanted some remuneration and that V. Chintalu refused and that the Sub-Inspector then tried to put up a false case against him and that he ultimately failed in his attempts. I further understand that V. Chintalu filed a petition against the Sub-Inspector and sent another petition to the Assistant Commissioner, Vizagapatam; and it has not yet been enquired into. I hope the hon. the Minister for Excise will be pleased to see that due redress is done in the matter. These Excise Sub-Inspectors do something more. In cases where the renters seem to be perverse to pay the bribes, the only course open to them is to report the matter to the Income-tax Officer saying that so and so is earning so much and that he may be heavily assessed. I trust, therefore, that as soon as possible, drastic measures may be taken to put an end to this kind of mal-practice that is prevailing among the subordinate officers of the Excise department.

"Before I close, I wish to touch on one or two important matters. As far as my experience as a member of the Excise Advisory Committee goes, my humble opinion is that it is a mere farce. With regard to the location of toddy shops at Yendagandi and Bhimavaram in the Bhimavaram taluk, a number of petitions were sent to the authorities to change the places. The non-official members of the

committee wanted to shift the place, but the majority of the members who were officers of the Excise department would not favourably consider this. It is for the convenience of the public that the locality of these shops should be changed. I wish also to allude to another point. The community of Setti Balijas and Kalalis number about 10 lakhs and there is not even a single individual who is holding any appointment in the whole of the Excise department—not even as a peon. In this connection I may also say that a major portion of the Excise income derived by the Government is got from the said communities. I request the hon. Minister to see that these two communities are employed in that department so that they may be encouraged in public service."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Mr. President, Sir, this hon. House is, I know, very anxious to hear the hon. Minister in charge of Excise. Therefore, I would not take very much of the time of the House, nor would I repeat the arguments advanced by some of the leaders of my party urging on the Government the necessity for the immediate introduction of prohibition. But, I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one administrative detail of the department, namely, the Excise department. Sir, the hon. Minister would perhaps remember that the Excise constables, who are technically called peons of the department, have now organized themselves into an Association called the Madras Presidency Excise Constables Association and have been having their annual conferences year after year. The resolutions adopted at such conferences have been sent to the Government asking for certain favour—I will not call them favours exactly, but nevertheless, I would put it that they do want the Government's favour. The first thing that they want of Government is this. That their title should be changed. Now they are being called 'Excise peons' What they want is that they should hereafter be called 'Excise constables.' Personally, I do not attach very much importance to a name, but nevertheless, as about 4,000 of the peons employed in the Excise department think that the term 'peon' is somewhat ridiculous and that they should be called 'constables,' I find no reason why Government should not accede to their request. After all it is not money that they are asking for, but it is only a change in the appellation. I therefore request the hon. Minister to do them this favour.

" Sir, this matter was represented to the Commissioner of Excise, it was also brought to my notice as well as to the notice of certain other hon. Members of this House. It may perhaps be argued that by calling them constables, they will be confused with Police constables. But, I would humbly submit for the consideration of the hon. Minister for Excise that there will be no confusion whatever. It is only imaginary.

.45 .m. " In the Police department, there are Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors and there are also Sub-Inspectors and Inspectors in the Excise department; and we have not had any confusion, when that is so, I can hardly imagine that there will be any confusion between Excise and Police constables. However, if the Government find it difficult to change

12th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

their appellation from peons to constables, I would request that they may at least be pleased to call them ' guards '—this is the name given to people doing similar work in Ceylon. This is a more dignified term.

" In a recent conference of these peons at Madras, which I had the honour of opening, resolutions were passed which perhaps Government may not find it possible to accept at this stage, namely, that their salaries should be raised and their services should be changed from menial to superior. The maximum salary that an Excise constable draws is Rs. 18 per mensem. When he retires even at the end of 30 years of service, he is entitled to only a pension of Rs. 6 or so whereas in the other departments, a man who retires after the prescribed number of years' service gets one half of the salary he was drawing. This appears to be a great injustice. I therefore request the hon. Minister that he will give his attention to this matter as well. I am not asking him to give effect to that resolution immediately, for I know the difficulties that the Government have got to face at the present moment. The resolution that has been passed by these people definitely says that they are prepared to wait until such time as the finances of the country improve. With these few words, I would once again request the hon. Minister to give immediate effect to the simple request of these peons that their designations may be changed from peons to constables or guards. "

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not want to take much time. I only wish to request the hon. Minister to concentrate his attention on one or two questions and give us definite information as to what he is doing in connection with them. Sir, this Government stands committed to the policy of total prohibition. The first thing I would like to know is whether the present Ministry is also committed to the policy of total prohibition. If so, now that more than five years have elapsed out of the 20 years' programme, what progress has been made in that direction during the past five years and what is the programme that the Ministry has before it in order to give effect to total prohibition within the remaining 15 years.

" The other thing I would like him to concentrate his attention on is this, Sir. There has been prohibition introduced in certain parts of certain districts. I would like to know whether there is any further programme of further extending that kind of prohibition to any other districts, or parts of any district.

" Thirdly, there has been a huge fall in the Excise revenue during the current year. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has realized the significance of this with reference to the question of giving effect to total prohibition. What has been his experience and what lessons has the Minister learnt from the fall in the Excise Revenue ? How is he going to take advantage of it and how is he going to utilize his experience ? Will the hon. Minister consider the possibility of taking a particular district for introduction of total prohibition and converting the staff in that district into a prohibition staff instead of the Excise staff. I would like to know what the Minister has to say upon this suggestion.

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayed] [12th March 1932

Lastly, Sir, with regard to the introduction of legislation, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has made up his mind with regard to any Local Option Bill or Prohibition Bill. If so, this House will be glad to know which measure he will bring in. Otherwise, I would very much like to know what policy he will follow if a Local Option Bill or a Prohibition Bill is introduced in this Council by a private member. If he lets us know his mind, some of the non-officials on this side will then consider how best to take steps to bring about some suitable legislation in this regard. Let the hon. Minister tell us frankly what his attitude is."

* The hon Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I need hardly remind hon. Members of this House that, on more occasions than one, this House has emphatically laid it down that it should be the declared policy of the Government that total prohibition is their ultimate ideal and that ideal should be reached within a reasonable period of time which, they thought, was a period of 20 years. (A voice: Beginning from?) I have also said on more occasions than one that this policy which the Council recommended has been the accepted policy of this Government also. In my speech on the occasion of the discussion of the demands of the last budget, I made this point as clear as I could; and I have not found, on a reading of it now, that there is anything there of which I need feel ashamed or for which I need feel sorry. My hon. Friend opposite (Mr. Yakub Hasan) told us however yesterday that, in his solicitude for my good name and reputation, he was ashamed that I should have made a speech of that kind clothed in specious and deceptive arguments which were quite unworthy of my position as Minister. I can assure the hon. gentleman and other similar good friends of mine that there is nothing in that speech which need cause any alarm to my friends that my good name is in danger or which should put them to shame on my account. I adhere to every word of what I said. I quoted on that occasion and I think the words can bear one more quotation what the then hon. Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar had said as Minister of Excise, viz., that the question of total prohibition was so intimately connected with the question of finance that it would be impossible to take up any great programme of prohibition unless it was possible for the Government to find a substituted source of revenue. I may also remind hon. Members of this House that, when the House passed a resolution saying that total prohibition should be attained within a period of 20 years, they also said, with equal emphasis, that the Finance Committee should explore and report to this Council the possibilities of finding other sources of revenue to make up the loss that would thereby be involved. The Finance Committee, after three years of hard but fruitless labour, could not make any contribution more helpful than merely saying that they had no remarks to offer. Some hon. Members of this House, I believe they were Mr. Patnaik, Mr. Moses, Mr. Premayya and some other also, stressed the point that prohibition does not consist in the mere closure of shops; but it does mean the prevention of drinking by people who do indulge in drink at present. If instead of drinking good licit liquor, they resort to illicit

12th March 1932] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

intoxicants, while that will result in a great sacrifice of revenue, it would not do any corresponding good to anybody, neither to the individuals themselves nor to the society at large. The consequences of their resorting to illicit drinks will certainly be more dangerous than their indulging in proper licit liquor. Other hon. Members also pointed out that for purposes of preventing illicit manufacture and of preventing people from indulging in illicit drinks, it would be necessary to have a large preventive staff. I need hardly tell this House that this is a proposition which is entirely correct. So, at present, if you undertake any large programme of prohibition, it would not only mean that we shall have to forego revenue that we are now getting under that source but we shall also have to incur large additional expenditure in the appointment of this preventive staff. I ask hon. Members of this House to consider very seriously whether they are prepared to vote money for this purpose. The Government have been driven to the necessity under national emergency to violate Covenants which they had entered into with their servants, to withdraw at least temporarily the protection which Acts of Parliament had given to them and to invoke even the aid of the Prerogative of the Crown with a view to find money to carry on the Government. While that is so, do hon. Members of this House seriously suggest that money raised by these means, this money with whose aid alone Government have been able to escape insolvency, ought to be employed in measures of prohibition. I would therefore appeal to hon. Members of this House to have some patience and not to be impatient in pushing on measures of prohibition. My hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, was more helpful than my hon. Friend Mr. Yakub Hasan in the suggestions that he made. He realized, as he always realized both as Minister and after he gave up the office, that Finance was the main if not the only consideration with regard to this problem. He said, now that you have balanced your Budget and that you have even a small surplus to play with that if your revenue does increase especially under the head of Excise, you must devote the additional money you get for purposes of introducing prohibition. I may perhaps be permitted to correct one portion of this statement. If we have been able to balance the Budget, it was not out of the normal resources of the Province; we have been able to do so by virtue of the great sacrifice that the officers of Government have made so willingly when called upon to do so to meet the present conditions, as I said, of national emergency and these are going to be withdrawn, as we all expect, at the end of 1932–33. After that year, we shall again be driven to the necessity of finding large amounts of money to balance our Budget. If still, after finding that money also we still have something left, then certainly that would be the time to consider how that money would be spent and I am sure the suggestions of my hon. Friend Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, will certainly receive the most careful consideration of the Government.

"In addition to that, he made constructive suggestions as to how we could increase the revenue under the head of Excise. I can tell him that all these proposals which he has now made on the floor of the House now are for the most part already under the consideration of

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [12th March 1932

the Government. He wanted an increase in the duty on arrack. The Retrenchment Committee also have considered this question and they have also made recommendations that the duty on arrack may be increased. Within recent years, increases have already been made and what further increase could possibly be made will certainly receive the consideration of the Government.

2 on. "With regard to locally made beer the duty has been recently increased, and any further increase so immediately after that first increase does not seem possible, at any rate, at present. The question of increasing the tree-tax will receive (is also under) the consideration of the Government. And another suggestion that he made was that instead of the present system of licensing foreign liquor shops by getting a fixed fee from them, we must have a system based upon the quantity sold. That is also a matter which is being investigated by the Government. The Commissioner of Excise, while returning from Delhi, whither he was summoned by the Government of India, had a consultation with the Commissioner of Bombay, as a result of which he has made certain proposals and now they are being considered by the Government. I hope under that head also it might be possible to effect some improvements. When all these materialise, and when our Budget is balanced even without the help of those sacrifices on the part of the officers of Government, the Government could consider the proposals of the kind made by my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.

"Well, the utmost that we have been at present able to do is to keep going the experiments in prohibition that have already been started. When every other activity of the Government had to be curtailed on account of financial stringency it is perhaps some satisfaction that in this direction at least it was not thought fit to curtail our work. Several areas in several districts have been made either wholly or partially dry. And the reports from one or two such areas do disclose that more effective preventive work is required in these areas and that abkari crimes are on the increase at present. But it is not possible to incur more expenditure on that account. However, the experiments are being continued in the hope that we might make the work of the preventive staff more effective and carry on the experiments with greater success in the future.

"Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar delivered a spirited attack against me because I did not make certain areas in the Anantapur district dry. I may tell him, Sir, that inquiries made with regard to that matter did not all of them lead to the same conclusions. There was a division of opinion, and the opinion that was in favour of holding that there was a genuine desire on the part of the public to give up drink when tested in the light of figures, with regard to the rentals fetched and with regard to the quantity of consumption, that opinion did not seem to be as formidable as it appears to be. Well, in view of these facts and in view of the fact that the financial stringency necessitated that we should be very cautious in undertaking any such measures as would involve any loss of revenue

12th March 1932] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

we were not able to undertake any experiments in that area. At present all that I can claim under these extraordinary conditions is that we are able to keep up the past level of our activities with regard to introducing prohibition.

" Mr. Muniswami Pillai referred to the old question of penalising possession of liquor amongst the hill tribes of the Nilgiris. That is a matter which has been under the consideration of the Government for some time. There are two sections of opinion on that point; while on the one hand to make effective the present partial prohibition that has been introduced amongst the hill tribes, the notification of the kind asked for, penalising possession of liquor altogether among the hill tribes is necessary; and on the other hand there is the opinion, which I find was shared to some extent by my predecessors, the Ministers in charge of Excise, that this additional provision might create a new opportunity for oppression. Well, to weigh these two views and to decide which has got the balance of advantage or convenience in its favour is a difficult question. And the legal aspect also of issuing a notification like that was a matter of doubt; that has been examined and that doubt has been cleared. Whether administratively it is necessary or desirable to do so is a matter on which I would like to have further consultation with the representatives of the district."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Order, order."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I will finish in a minute, Sir. With regard to my Friend, Mr. Sriramulu, I must say that in no department of the Government is it more necessary to put down corrupt practices with a strong hand than in the department of Excise. Because such corrupt practices in this department do result not merely in inefficiency of administration but they result in loss of revenue to Government. So, I can assure him that if instances of such corrupt practice are brought to the notice of Government, the Government and the department will not have the slightest hesitation in putting them down. If my Friend would give some specific cases, some he has given, some he has not, I can assure him that all that is possible would be done in the matter."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I will now put the cut motion to the vote of the House.

" The question is—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 31,05,600 *under Excise by Rs.* 100'."

The motion was negatived.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I will now put the main Demand to the vote of the House.

" The question is—

'*Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 31,05,600 *under Demand II—Excise—Transferred*'."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND III—STAMPS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

> '*That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,49,700 under " Stamps—Reserved ".*' "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

> '*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 1,49,700 *under " Stamps " by Rs.* 100.'

" My object in doing so is, as stated in the notice paper, to discuss *the unsatisfactory state of the levy of court-fees and the necessity to* revise the Act. Sir, I do not want on this occasion to repeat all that we have time and again said, and which the hon. the Law Member has heard *ad nauseum*. Now, Sir, I merely want to draw his attention to the fact that in spite of what we have said on this subject and in spite of our requests to Government they have done nothing in the matter. What exactly is the nature of the difficulty that stands in their way? They have not told us till now why the recommendations of the Taxation Inquiry Committee have not been given effect to? If they are not really empowered to take any action in this matter, may I know what steps they have taken to move the Government of India to give effect to those recommendations? Sir, as we all know, that committee was constituted under the orders of the Government of India. But at least this Government should have moved in the matter in response to the wishes of this Council, who have urged time and again to take some action. There does not appear to be any reason why Government should shirk their duty. Whatever justification there might have been for the Government of India or this Government, for my part I feel there can be no justification to delay this kind of reform which is a most necessary and most urgent one in the interests of the public and particularly the litigant population. The incidence of taxation is so great and the present incidence is such that very few people can afford to seek justice in Courts of Law. With a view to reduce the incidence of taxation and at the same time not to affect the revenue of the Government, there have been proposals made. They must have been examined, and if that has been done the result must be told to this Council. Now, Sir, the difficulties experienced by the litigant public with regard to the payment of court-fees are enormous. Government themselves are not unaware of these. If only they would call for information from the judicial officers they will be able to see how exactly the prosecutions of suits, appeals, petitions, etc., are not carried on as systematically as they ought to be, with a view to vindicate justice, on account of their difficulty in paying this heavy court-fee. Now, Sir, what I want this Government to do is to take some steps in the matter; and if the initiative does not lie with them, they should at least move the Government of India in the matter. It is no use being told that the whole constitution of the Government of India is in the melting pot and until it is considered whether we should have a federal system and whether the

12th March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

provinces should become autonomous this matter has to be kept in abeyance. I would say such an argument is futile. For, the present rate of court-fees is hitting the public hard. You call yourselves representatives of a responsible government and may I ask what you are going to do in the matter? You have your experts to assist you in the task of revising the scale of fees; and so I submit there is a great deal of scope for improvement, and as the present system is getting more and more intolerable I would like the hon. the Law Memher to take early steps in the matter."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not want to take up the time of the House on the matter of the reduction to the former level of the general court-fees and stamps as it has been discussed over and over again, and as I know at the present moment the hon. the Law Member cannot give relief in this matter. Of course it is admitted by all that the present level of court-fees and stamps is very high and it should be reduced to its former level as early as possible. I want now to press on the hon. the Law Member the desirability of examining, in view of the recommendations of the Civil Justice Committee and the Taxation Inquiry Committee, certain items in which there is really room for improvement. The Committees have proposed the raising of the level of taxes and fees in some cases, and in other cases they have asked to reduce them so as to make the incidence equitable. I would like to ask the hon. the Law Member what action the Government have taken with regard to those recommendations.

" Secondly, Sir, those who have been watching the proceedings of 12- p, the High Court will be aware that there are very many matters about which definite provision has not been made in the Court Fees Act. Only recently, Sir, there was some difficulty as to how the valuation was to be made, whether it was to be the market value or whether it was to be calculated in the same manner as properties were valued for purposes of getting possession under section 7. The High Court itself found the matter a little bit difficult and said that it was a matter which the Legislature had to provide for. As things stood they had to come to some sort of conclusion. There have been several other cases in which declaration was asked as to what sort of court-fee should be paid. There have been always diffierences of opinion on matters like that when injunction was required or a receiver was asked for along with the declaration. In all these matters some definite provision has to be made. Now the whole thing depends upon the sarishtadar or his head clerk of the particular court. He may exact a higher or lower fee and it stands in most cases. It is very unsatisfactory. As I said, in recent times there have been several matters coming before the High Courts in which they have said that it is for the Legislature to deal with. I should like to know from the hon. the Law Member whether his department has taken note of these matters and whether he will set these matters at rest by legislation instead of allowing to be gambled with in the way in which they are being done. In these matters it is better we are definite. We must know actually where we stand instead

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [12th March 1932

of leaving it to courts, sometimes at the stage of second appeal, to start enquiring into. So, I would appeal to the hon. the Law Member to look into all these matters and make the incidence equitable in all cases even though he is not able to give effect to a general desire for a general reduction in court-fees and stamps."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDA addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! ஸ்டாம்புகட்டணம் முன்காலத்திலிருந்ததைவிட இப்போது மிகவும் அதிகமாயிருக்கிறது. அதனால் ஏழைகள் முதல் பணக்காரர்கள்வரை யாருங் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். முன்காலத்தில் ஸ்மால்காஸ் கேஸ்களுக்கு நூற்றுக்கு ஐந்து ரூபாய்கள் கட்டணமாயிருந்தது. தற்போது ஏழரை ரூபாய்களாகவிருக்கிறது. முன்காலத்தில் ஒரிஜினல் சூட்டிற்கு நூற்றுக்கு ஏழரையா யிருந்தது. தற்போது பதினொன்றரையாகிவிட்டது. முன்காலத்தில் வாதியும் பிரதிவாதியும் ராஜியாகிவிட்டால் கோர்ட்பீஸ் பணத்தில் பாதி வாபீஸ் செய்துவிடுவார் கள். சுதேச சமஸ்தானமாகிய திருவாங்கூரில் இப்பொழுதும் அப்படி நடக்கிறது. பிரிட்டிஷ் இந்தியாவில் அப்படி செய்வதில்லை. ராஜியாகிவிட்டால் ஜட்ஜிகளுக்கு வேலையில்லை. வேலையில்லாமலிருந்தும் பணத்தைத் திருப்புவதில்லை. முன்காலத்தில் அடமானமாயிருந்தால் நூற்றுக்குப் பன்னிரண்டணாவாயிருந்தது. தற்போது ஒரு ரூபாயாகவிருக்கிறது. முன்காலத்தில் கிரைய தஸ்தவேஜ் நூற்றுக்கு ஒரு ரூபாயாகவிருந்தது. தற்போது ஒன்றரை ரூபாயாகவிருக்கிறது. முன் காலத்தில் காப்பி ஸ்டாம்பு இரண்டணாவாயிருந்தது. தற்போது மூன்றணாவாயிருக்கிறது. விலைவாசிகள் குறைந்து வியாபாரம் சுருங்கியுள்ள இக்காலத்தில் ஸ்டாம்பு கட்டணத்தைக் குறைத்தால் குடிகளுக்குப் பெரிதும் அநுகூலமாயிருக்கும்."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar began his speech by saying that he knew what the result would be. If we are to be guided by the results of our speeches and activities I think the only course left will be to keep mum or to go away. But I am afraid that it is not the sole guiding factor which guides the Members of the House as regards their activities in this House. Now, Sir, I do not want to repeat the arguments that were advanced last year by so many Members including myself and they were also repeated year after year on the floor of this House at the time of the Budget discussions. What I would ask the Government to consider is the question as to the promise which they made when the court-fee was enhanced in 1922. I am told that the promise can be carried out only when there is surplus. I do not know whether the same argument could be advanced when a private party goes to courts to enforce a promise in court. The court-fees were enhanced simply as a temporary measure and it is only perhaps just at present that some financial stringency has stepped in. I do not think that the Government can say that the same state of affairs prevailed previously. But the Government have been still persistently sticking to the advantage that they had as a temporary measure and have been practically making it a permanent institution. Well, from the financial point of view I may point out that it will be wiser on the part of Government just to lower the rates and see how it works. There are so many instances in which members of the public have refrained from enforcing their claims and going to courts of law simply because the court-fee prescribed is prohibitive. If the Government reduce the court-fee I am sure a very large section of the public will be able to avail themselves of courts of law in order to enforce

12th March 1932] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

their claims. The usual commercial principle, small profit and larger business, can very well be considered by the Government. I am sure if the court-fee is reduced there will be larger litigation and the Government will ultimately be benefited. It is not merely encouraging litigation. At present it is after the higher court-fee is introduced that the richer people indulge in litigation. As a matter of fact the real people who require the assistance of courts are the poorer people and they are kept out of court on account of the prohibitive nature of the court-fee they have to pay. There are thousands and thousands of people who are being deprived of the assistance of court of law because they are not in a position to go to court of law. Think just for a moment what a man will have to spend to recover a sum of Rs. 100. In order to enforce that claim he must have at least one-fourth of that amount before thinking of going to a court of law. About eleven and one-fourth rupees he must find by reason of court-fees and added to that there are incidental expenses including the vakil's fee which will in the aggregate come to one-fourth of the total sum. If a man has to get Rs. 100 he will have to find out Rs. 25 by way of investment. Well, many a poor man will not be in a position to find that money and it is on that account that many poor people are deprived of the assistance of court of law in recovering their claims. I may also in this connexion remind the hon. the Law Member himself of what he had been speaking, while he was on this side of the House about that time. Those facts were expressly brought to his notice last year. As regards financial stringency I have already stated that it is certainly worth while to try the experiments of lowering the stamps and on this occasion I may also just refer to so many iniquities as regards the method in which court-fee is collected. These are all matters of detail. The increasing number of cases under the Court Fees Act which are coming before the High Court for decision now and again shows that there is a great deal of defect in the Court Fees Act as it stands at present. I do not think it necessary for me to refer to all these instances. It is a fact that references under court-fee are increasing every day and it is certainly owing to the defects in the Act itself. It is high time that the Government at least takes some steps to remove those difficulties and guarantee the public for certainty of the court-fee they have to pay before going to court. I think it will be well on the part of the Government to just conduct some kind of enquiry as to the defects existing in the present Court Fees Act and also to find out the advisability of reducing the court-fee."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Two points generally have emerged out of the speeches of my hon. Friends in this House under this Demand. One is that there should be a reduction in the existing rates of the stamp duty and the other is that apart from the question of reduction, the Court Fees Act should be amended, with a view to equalize the inequalities in the collection of rates, whether by reducing or even increasing the rates. Now, with reference to the first of these two points, namely, the existing rates of stamp duties, I may say, that I was very glad to note a subdued feeling in the speeches of my hon. Friends that there would be a natural difficulty

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [12th March 1932

in reducing the existing rates at present. As my hon. Friends are aware, this enhanced duty was introduced in 1922 when special financial stringency was felt by the Government. What is the present financial state of the Government? My hon. Friends are aware that the financial difficulty existing now is very much more severe than what it was in 1922. Hon. Friends know very well that there was no time when the Government were in such difficulties regarding finance as they are at present. For instance, in 1922 this drastic step of cutting the salaries of officials from the highest to the lowest was not thought necessary. Again, many of the Government officials who in the ordinary course would continue to be Government servants are now being sent away by Government by reason of the financial difficulties. Thus, the difficulties which existed in 1922 and which made it necessary for the Government with the assistance of the Legislative Council then to enhance the court-fees, exist now and exist to a greater extent. Therefore, however much I may wish to comply with the wishes of my Friends for the reduction of these rates they themselves see that it is a practical impossibility. Then, the other point that has been referred to is this, viz., the amendment to the Court Fees Act to equalize the existing inequalities. On that question, after the report of the Taxation Enquiry Committee was received, this Government had correspondence with the Government of India and the Government of India had correspondence with the other Provincial Governments; and the conclusion they ultimately arrived at was that they would take up this question of amending the Court Fees Act for the purpose of equalizing the rates of court-fees, after the results of the consideration of the recommendations of the Statutory Commission were known. The Government of India have thus held it up, so that it is not possible for this Government to consider it now.

"I believe it was my Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, that said—I think there is considerable truth in what he said—that very often the amount of fees which a particular client has to pay is made to depend on the opinions of the head ministerial officers—the sarishtadars of the district courts and the sub-courts and the head clerks of the munsifs' courts. Some of these may be competent men who have studied the provisions of the Act carefully and therefore in a position to give correct opinions with reference to the rates of court-fees to be collected. There may be others again who are not so competent, with the result that the Government themselves very often suffer loss and there is a leakage of court-fees. I may tell my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, in particular that a staff has been appointed by the Government on the recommendation of the High Court and that staff is inspecting now the different courts in the Presidency. The records of a very large number of courts have already been examined and they have been able to recoup to the extent of Rs. 80,000 the loss or leakage in court-fees. That staff is working even now. Thus under the existing provisions of the Court Fees Act, whatever is possible is being done.

"Then I may also say this, that the High Court has sent instructions to all the courts, with a view to impress on the head ministerial officers the desirability of closely examining the question of court-fees

when plaints are presented, and the Government have also issued special instructions to Government pleaders here and in the mufassal to bring to the notice of the High Court and the lower courts questions of court-fees and they are asked to appear specially in cases involing any question of court-fees. Having regard to these considerations, I hope my hon. Friend will not press his motion."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"What initiative are you going to take hereafter, to move the Government of India to bring in an early legislation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government of India pass certain special orders; those orders are binding upon this Government. They may not be binding upon my hon. Friend who is a non-official but they are binding upon this Government, and I am afraid that in such circumstances it is not possible for this Government to take any action."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Does anything prevent the hon. Member from making further representation?"

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I move, Sir,—

'*To reduce the allotment of Rs.* 1,49,700 *for Stamps by Rs.* 100.'

"Just now, the hon. the Law Member was pleased to tell us about the appointment of a committee in order to examine the stamps on documents filed in courts and to take steps to prevent leakage. I think that was also the recommendation of the Taxation Enquiry Committee. If that recommendation had been given effect to, I fail to see why the other recommendations could not be given effect to. I want the hon. the Law Member to state what are the methods adopted for the prevention of leakage. I am aware that a committee has been appointed. But what I should like to know is the procedure laid down for this committee, whether there is any programme according to which they should inspect the court offices and the time within which the deficient fees should be recovered, and whether that programme and procedure is expeditious as otherwise it may lead to more costs than what is likely to be recovered as the result of the inspection of these offices. I understand that the procedure as it is is very circumlocutous. It is like this. The committee goes to a certain court and examines the records. It is only in certain courts that ample and adequate facilities are given to the committee; in other courts such facilities are not given. Then this committee finds out several documents which bear deficient stamps. Then reports are made, and those reports go to the next higher authority and get stuck up there for months together; and in cases where there is conflict of opinion between the committee and the Judge they are referred by the High Court to the Government Pleader; the Government Pleader takes a number of months to dispose of even a single case. Where there is a sum of Rs. 15 or 20 involved, the Government Pleader may have to be paid as his fees Rs. 25; and in many cases his fee may

be in *excess of the amount sought to be recovered. Then after the* recommendation of the Government Pleader the Government may take some time—I know that Government has taken 3 or 4 months to dispose of a simple case. There again the court has to pay stamp duty on suits for recovery of deficient fees, for they cannot lay hands on parties by any other method. They have to pay court-fee for filing suits or recover it through Revenue courts. But the Revenue courts are not empowered to do it and I do not know what procedure is followed. But I think ultimately those authorities will have to be driven to file suits, and then there is the question of paying court-fee for recovery of certain other court-fees. I want Government to tell us how exactly they have planned to recover the deficient court-fees and how expeditiously they are going to do it. If it is not done expeditiously it is a futile game, it will be a wild goose chase. Then what is the machinery employed to make the lower courts give effect to the instructions? The High Court may take a long time to decide on references made to it; then the whole thing will become a eye-wash. I am simply surprised that the committee has been able to find out a deficiency of only Rs. 80,000. I think it must have been four or five times as much as that. So I want that Government should devise a plan and procedure which will enable the expeditious recovery of these deficient court-fees."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, my Friend (Mr. Basheer Ahmed) has dwelt on the defects of the system which has been planned for prevention of leakage in court-fees. The hon. the Law Member said that a committee has been appointed to carry out the scheme, but I do not know what is really meant by a committee. What I understood him to say was that certain officers have been sent out by the High Court to go and inspect the several courts in the Presidency and see how far the court-fees collected in various proceedings pending before them have been rightly collected. There is another side of the picture which I would like to draw the attention of the Government to and that is this. This leakage of court-fee or deficiency of court-fee has been caused by either a defect in the Court Fees Act or by the wrong judgment exercised by the officers who have to decide what the correct amount of court-fee is. If it is possible to assume that lower court-fee has been collected in many cases and there has been leakage, it is as much *likely* that excess court-fee also has been collected in very many cases. As a matter of fact, I can speak from my own experience that we are much handicapped by the fact that when suits or appeals are presented when the officer concerned demands a particular amount our arguments do not prevail and we have to bow to his will and pay *against our own judgment the higher court-fee that is demanded.* No doubt it may be said that we may take steps to refer the matter to the court; but we may be so situated that it is not possible for us to wait for decision of the court as regards the correct amount of court-fee, because there may be some execution proceedings or some other proceedings pending in which case we shall not be able to move for the stay of proceedings unless the court-fee demanded by the officer is at once given. I should like to know from the hon. the Law Member

whether these officers, or the committee as he calls it, are also asked to enquire into the excess court-fee that has been paid and whether any instruction has been given to them or whether any provision has been made for the refund of the excess court-fee wherever it has been found that an excess fee has been paid. It will be only in the fairness of things that if the deficient court-fee is ordered to be paid the excess court-fee also should be ordered to be refunded after the examination of these cases. As I said, one of the causes of these irregularities is the defect in the Court Fees Act itself. Even from the reply of the hon. the Law Member I was not able to gather that he was going to take any steps to see that the defects in the Court Fees Act itself are to be remedied. No doubt, amendments may be moved as regards other matters, but so far as the uncertainty of the provisions of the Act *itself is concerned, it is a matter left to the Provincial Legislature,* and they can take some steps to see that these uncertainties are removed and that the parties and vakils are made to understand the Act in a more certain and definite manner, so that there may be no more troubles of the kind which they are seeking to prevent by means of this committee or the inspection staff that they have sent out. I shall also make one more appeal to the hon. the Law Member whether in view of the collections they are making by way of recovering the deficit court-fee and so on, it is not advisable for the Government to consider again the question of restoring the court-fee to its former level, with a view not to relieve the litigant public with which they are not so much concerned but with a view to increase their own income."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, as my 12-
Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed said, it is not a slow process of work P.
on which the particular staff has been employed. As a matter of fact they go from court to court inspecting records. My Friend stated that after these records were inspected, references were made again to Government Pleaders and they took their own time, sometimes two months, sometimes three months and so on. Nothing of the kind. No reference at all is made to Government Pleaders. Instructions have been given to Government Pleaders to appear in cases in which questions relating to court-fees are involved, and argue on behalf of Government. These instructions that have been issued to Government Pleaders, I may say, are that they should appear in cases where questions with regard to deficiency of stamps are involved and argue those cases, so that the court may be enabled to come to the right conclusion. No other instructions are issued with reference to this matter.

" So far as the expedition of this matter is concerned, I may say that it is a very speedy process. I believe that so far as pending cases are concerned, it is possible for the Inspecting staff to levy the proper court-fees. But so far as past cases are concerned, it is not possible to rectify the errors. It is only with reference to those cases which are pending and over which the Inspecting staff has got a control that this examination can be held.

" Then with reference to what my Friend Mr. Pocker said, viz., whether the Government will repay the excess fees, if they have been

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [12th March 1932

collected, I may say that if there are provisions in the Court Fees Act enabling parties to claim any excess which they paid, they must take the necessary steps. There is no law, so far as I am aware, enabling parties to claim refund of excess court-fees . . ."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"My hon. Friend is quite ignorant of the state of things in courts. There are cases which are referred to Government Pleaders and for which they are paid and they take a lot of time in giving their opinions. This is the state of things which probably my hon. Friend, the Law Member, is not aware of. The Government Pleader in Madras at any rate has been referred to to give his opinion and he does take a long time. Even with regard to pending cases, I ask why they should not be expedited. That has not been answered."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I have nothing more to say."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND IV—FOREST—RESERVED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

> '*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,56,600 under Demand IV—Forest—Reserved*'."

*Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"I move, Sir,—

> '*That from the Demand just now made a sum of Rs. 100 may be deducted.*'

"Sir, the object of this cut is to discuss the Forest policy of the Government. We Members of this House are rather at a disadvantage in criticizing the Budget proposals, because we have not been supplied so far with up-to-date information concerning the working of the Forest Department. The information that is available to us is what is contained in the Administration Report of the Forest Department for the year ending 1930–31. Since that time another year has practically gone by, and while the Budget proposals relate to the coming year, the information contained in the Administration Report of the Forest Department for the year ending 1930–31 is the only information on which we can base our criticisms. Speaking on the basis of that information, one may make some mistakes and if I do make any mistakes, I hope my hon. Friend, the Law Member, will correct me.

"Sir, to begin with, the impression that one gets by reading the Administration Report of the Forest Department is that failure seems to have been written large across the work of the Forest Department. From the earlier days when the Department was carrying on its mamul operations, a departure was made some time ago and the Government decided upon a large scheme of expansion and of capital expenditure. I remember the days when Government appeared to have been in great

12th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

haste to put into execution its ill-digested schemes and subsequent events have proved that they were ill-conceived and futile schemes. I remember that about the end of the year 1920–21 there were many proposals for exploitation of the resources of the Forest. There was a proposal to canalize some of the rivers on the West Coast. I shall give one or two examples to show the utter carelessness that characterizes the operations of the Government and the utter want of elementary data without which these proposals have been made. With reference to the scheme of canalization of the rivers on the West Coast, we received telegrams in the Public Works Department to put the work into execution. We had not got the plans or the estimates to put those works into execution and yet we were asked to start the work of canalization of the Nilambur river. So also in the case of Periavani river we started the work of canalization, and we went on with the work. Afterwards the whole thing collapsed owing to various causes. For instance, in the case of Nilambur river, the Raja of Nilambur said that the river bed was his private property. This was characteristic of the operations of the Forest Expansion that were started in those years. I do not blame the present hon. Law Memher for what was done many years ago. After dropping that scheme they went on with many other schemes. They started the Russellkonda Saw Mill, and also the Olavakkot Saw Mill and also the exploitation of Chenat Nair Forest Reserves. With all sorts of mechanical implements for new-fangled methods and with a very considerably enlarged establishment of experts who are supposed to be masters in the new line of work, the Government embarked upon these new schemes. Now, Sir, after years of work and after a waste of lakhs and lakhs of public money Government have after all decided to give up all these ventures. Practically every one of these schemes has been dropped and we to-day have the melancholy satisfaction of hearing from the Government that since all this money has been wasted, they have decided to give up those schemes. We have to thank them for small mercies, because at least they have now decided to stop these schemes without further waste of public money.

"Well, Sir, as I said, this one example alone is sufficient to stamp across the name of the Forest Department the term 'inefficiency'. Is it after all a scientific department? A department which goes in for large expenditure on schemes without the necessary data of any kind and then finding itself in difficulties being unable to make any progress finally gives up the schemes after wasting huge sums of public money and producing nothing by way of profits can hardly be called a scientific department. We find from the Administration Report—taking one scheme, viz., the Chenat Nair Forest Scheme—that there were not even the working plans, there was no information about the details of the various kinds of timber that they could extract from this source. It is strange to think of a department or a Government which launches upon such schemes of Forest exploitation without any data to work upon. Sir, I thought that the preparation of working plan or the details of the timber available in any reserve must precede any scheme

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [12th March 1932

of exploitation, but in this case strangely enough this Government has gone on starting very expensive schemes, importing expensive machinery and experts from America and other countries on large salaries and then we are told ' these are all useless schemes and they had to be given up.'

" Sir, before I leave this subject I would like the Government to let us know if they have conducted any enquiry concerning these schemes of mechanical exploitation and who the authors were. It seems to me that many of these officers are not in service. Are there any more left who had anything to do with the scheme as authors? Are they responsible for the great loss which the Government have been put to by incurring expenditure on this mechanical exploitation scheme? If there are, I hope the Government will take the necessary disciplinary action.

" Concerning the operations of the Forest Department I find that the Government have budgeted this year for 47·26 lakhs of revenue, but I find that the establishment charges for getting this revenue come to about 33·13 lakhs or 70 per cent of the revenue. It seems to me that we cannot conceive of any other greater wasteful expenditure on establishments than this. I am aware that it is not possible, nor fair to look at the establishment charges as being necessarily a fixed proportion of the revenue realized. But it seems to me that once scientific exploitation drops, once you resort to the usual hum-drum methods, there is no need to employ these very big and expensive establishments. In fact, I doubt whether the Forest Department, as it stands to-day, deserves to be called a scientific department at all.

.m. " I do not know how much of science there is in the operations to which the Government have after all confined the work of the Forest Department. Government have stated in their order published along with the Administration Report for 1930–31 that they have decided to give up mechanical exploitation methods and go back to the old system of having partially a Government agency and partially the agency of contractors, consumers and purchasers. They have also stated that they have already reduced their subordinate staff and are considering the question of reducing the superior staff. I should like to know what Government have proposed to do in this matter. If what you are going to do is only the usual method of exploitation of forests which does not require really a scientific and trained service, why should you have this very big service of men trained in Europe and other countries? In fact I should like to know what the qualifications insisted upon are for officers appointed to the Forest Serivce, because it seems to me that if they are appointed merely on qualifications secured in Europe in connexion with the working of the forests in that country, I should not be surprised if when they come here they are found totally ignorant of Indian conditions and lead the Government into all sorts of wild goose chases. It is high time to consider whether it is useful at all to go to Europe for recruitment to this

12th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

service. We should to a large extent utilize the resources of the Madras Forest College and in fact keep it as the only source of recruitment to our service. I shall refer to the question later again.

" Of the total revenue of 47·22 lakhs Government expects to realize 17·96 lakhs by work done by Government agency and 25·26 lakhs by work done by purchasers and consumers. In the latter case all that is necessary is the work of watching. You want a fairly large establishment to watch the forests, prevent thefts and so forth. But as I said it seems to me very doubtful if Government can make a proper case at all for maintaining the enormous forest establishment at its present level.

" Reference has been made in the Administration Report to the preparation of working plans. I have not been able to understand what a working plan is. If as I suppose these working plans give information about the kind of trees, the number of trees to be obtained and so on in particular areas, this is one of the fundamental things that should have been done years ago by the Forest department. But the Administration Report says that working plans are in progress in some places, are partially completed in others and are going to be taken up in other places and so on. I should like my hon. Friend, the Member in charge of the Forest department, to let us know what this sort of thing means and when they are going to complete these fundamental things called 'working plans.' I presume they should have been prepared years and years ago. What has the Forest department been doing all these years? Has it merely been doing forest guard work, the work of watching the forests? Because the Government themselves in the case of the failure of the mechanical exploitation of the Chenat Nair forests admit that they have not the data of the kind of trees available and the number of trees available in any particular place. It would be very strange indeed, apart from the scheme that have failed, if any kind of forest operation can be considered to lead to success if they have not got ready at hand this very elementary information that is required for working and exploiting the forests.

" Then I should like to refer to the timber and fuel requirements of the agricultural population. My experience is that there are many areas where it is impossible to get the requisite timber for making agricultural implements. Take the deltas for example. There are some areas where you get the *babul* wood but there are very large areas where you cannot get the *babul* wood. The ryots have got to go very far to get this wood to manufacture their implements. In the matter of fuel, it is a well-known fact that the ryots of these deltaic areas have to burn cowdung which is a very valuable manure simply because they are unable to get the requisite fuel for household purposes. Take the case of the Godavari districts. It seems to me to be a cruel mockery that the ryots there should be burning cowdung for fuel purpose when there are extensive forests within easy reach of

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [12th March 1932

them with valuable fuel rotting without being used. The means of communication also are very easy and efficient; you have got a great river running through the whole range of these forests and the Forest department can float their fuel and timber down this river and its canals to reach the delta to meet the requirements of the agricultural population, who, as I said, are actually suffering for want of these simple things. In connexion with the Economic Enquiry Committee we made a remark that this might be done, but the wise people of the Forest department did not think it can be done and there the matter ended. Sir, if the Forest department cannot successfully carry out the mechanical exploitation and development of these forests, if it cannot supply fuel and timber for agricultural implements for the agricultural population, one would be justified in saying that we can get on very largely without this department, at least with a smaller Forest establishment than we have at present.

"I find that reference has been made to overseas trade. I am rather surprised that after years and years of experience Government have not been able to establish an overseas market for Indian timber. We know that our forests abound in valuable timber; we know also that this timber can be used in other countries. But have Government after all found nothing about the demands in other countries for our valuable timber? I find from the Administration Report that the amount of timber sent overseas is very inconsiderable and in most cases they seem to be adopting the queer system of sending out the timber on account. The timber is first sent to an agent who sells it and credits whatever he realizes to the Government. Government do not know whether they are going to make a profit or loss out of the transaction. Sometimes it results in profit and sometimes in loss. It seems to be a queer system of managing things by which you do not know whether you are going to make profit or loss. The timber is cut and entrusted to some agent overseas. He says: I have lost on this particular transaction; the market is dull. He simply books his loss. I think we have got a right to expect a department of Government which is presumed to be run on scientific lines to produce better results than that.

"Then, I see that there are two sylviculturists. It is a very tall name. I wonder what are the results they have been achieving except sowing seeds and planting seedlings and so on. It is stated that sometimes the seedlings do not thrive and dry out; sometimes they are destroyed by elephants and wild pigs and so forth. It is more or less something like coolie work. I do not know why you want two sylviculturists at all since you have cut down the operations of your department and decided to work the forests on lay lines, if I may use that expression. Why do you want scientific people at all? Then there is the Forest Engineer. I do not know if the Forest department really requires a separate Forest Engineer. The Public Works Department is now hard up for work and you can entrust to them all your capital works and improvements and they will be only too glad to carry out

12th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

such works. As for petty repairs the subordinate establishment in the Forest department is quite competent to carry them out without the assistance of the Forest Engineer.

" With regard to the Forest College it has always been a puzzle to me why Madras students have not been joining that college. At the present time, if I am right—of course my information is about a year old—it looks as if there are no Madras students at all in the college. I should like to know why that is the case. Does not the Madras Government give scholarships? (Interruption.) I am told that this institution only trains men who are already in service. In that case I think we can close it. I should like that the resources of the college *are utilized to produce men who will be fit to take up the work of the* Forest department in the various grades just as is the case with the Agricultural College at Coimbatore. Why do you want a training institution? You want an educational institution which will produce men competent to man the various ranks of the service. Why cannot you do it? I don't see why you should go in for European recruitment? It is certainly not very efficient—the kind of men who come out; for they have not had the kind of training that is necessary for working our forests. If any proof is required of this I think the failure of the big ventures of the Forest department supplies it in ample measure. The kind of men who come out are not competent to produce schemes of value that will result in benefit to the tax-payer. So, I would ask the Government to consider the question of making the Forest College more efficient and make it an institution for producing the staff required to man the department. Besides, may I suggest to my hon. Friend, the Member in charge of Forests, the desirability of taking at least the non-officials of this Council, if not the non-officials of the public, into the confidence of the Government and appoint a committee to enquire into the whole working of the Forest department? I am sure this Committee will turn out work of great value. The Government say they have reduced the subordinate establishment and will consider the question of reducing the superior establishment. I daresay many more things will have to be done before the Forest department can be said to be working satisfactorily. May I again appeal to my hon. Friend to consider the advisability of his agreeing if possible to the appointment of a mixed committee of officials and non-officials to inquire into the working of the Forest department. I am sure if he adopts such a course, it will produce nothing but satisfactory results. Valuable results will be achieved because the officials will have the benefit of non-official criticism and the non-officials will have the necessary information from the officials. It will not only be in the interests of the Government but also in the interests of the public."

* Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" Sir, the Government seem to have decided 1-1 p.m.
*that the future policy of the department should be to combine pro*tection with exploitation. This is a decision which will meet with general acceptance. It is no doubt true that almost all the commercial undertakings for the exploitation of forests have resulted in a

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [12th March 1932

huge loss amounting to several lakhs of rupees. But this should not make us oppose the policy of development and exploitation. It would be foolish if we do not utilize to the fullest extent the wealth of our forests and we confine ourselves merely to a policy of protection or conservation. I find, Sir, that the revenue from forest went up to Rs. 63¼ lakhs in the year 1929–30: it has come down to Rs. 44½ lakhs in the present year. The Government expect a little rise in the income in the coming year. But I do not think the Government anticipate any great rise in revenue for a few more years to come. In view of this fact, it is necessary that the utmost economies possible should be effected in the working of this department. I understand that, in connexion with the reorganization scheme, certain economies were effected and the Retrenchment Committee also has proposed further measures of retrenchment.

"It is a general complaint that this department is top-heavy. The number of gazetted officers is much in excess of the sanctioned number of posts. We have a number of Conservators, Deputy Conservators, Assistant Conservators and Extra Assistant Conservators. Besides these officers they have a special staff in connexion with working plans, research and utilization branches. This House would like to know what reduction in the higher ranks of the establishment has been made or will be made and what further economies will be effected as the result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, has referred to the question of the Forest College. This college seems to have been established not only to meet the needs of this province but also to provide training for outsiders, for students coming from some of the other provinces and Indian States. This college has never had the full number of students during the last several years; Madras students have been very few and sometimes even nil. In the course for 1930–32 I understand that there are only 20 students in all and in the course for 1932–33 the number of students is 21. At present there are only 2 private students from Madras and no Government students at all. It is said that the Central Provinces Government have been sending the largest number of students to this college. But since last year, the Central Provinces Government have decided to send their students for training to the Dehra Dun College. Evidently, they are not satisfied with the training given at Coimbatore. If the number of students coming from outside also is reduced, I do not know how the Government propose to make full use of this college. I would like to know what the loss incurred on the working of this college is. Why should the tax-payers of this province be made to pay the cost of training students coming from other provinces and Indian States? Do the Government propose to raise the fees for students coming from outside so as to cover the cost of running this college at its present strength or will they ask the Government of India to take up this college and run it?

"Conservation of forests is admittedly for the benefit of agriculture. Madras is one of the provinces where a large proportion of the forest

12th March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

area is interspersed among cultivated lands. The ryots are very closely affected by the manner in which forests within the cultivated area are administered. The Government of India circular issued 38 years ago has laid down clearly that the claims of cultivation should be considered as superior to the claims of forest preservation. The utilization of forest lands to the fullest extent to meet the needs of the ryots in the matter of providing fodder for live-stock, leaves for manure, fuel and timber has been accepted as the policy of the Government. But the practice is different. The Chief Conservator of Forests recommended some time ago the raising of grazing fees. He has again, I find, in his latest report, asked the Government to reconsider his proposal for an increase in the grazing rates, so as to improve the financial resources of the Government. The ryots have been asking for the abolition or at least for the reduction of the grazing fees. The Chief Conservator proposes enhancement of grazing fees; sometime back he proposed that grazing should altogether be prohibited. He had also proposed that the removal of manure leaves should be restricted and even stopped altogether after some time. This is how the head of the department seeks to carry out in practice the declared policy of the Government in relation to the needs of the ryots.

"In South Kanara, Sir, we have a large area of reserve forests running from one end of the district to the other and closely adjoining the cultivated area; representations made in this Council year after year have been of little avail in making Government redress our forest grievances. When the hon. the Law Member visited South Kanara early last year, the hopes of the ryots were to some extent roused, because that was the first time after the Reformed Councils came into existence, that the Government Member in charge of the Forest Portfolio happened to visit the district. Representations were made to the Law Member in three places, at Baindur, at Someswar and Mangalore, and people were expecting that the hon. the Law Member would do something to remedy the grievances of the people. But, Sir, the answer given to my question on the 26th of January has destroyed the last vestige of hope in this matter. Much cry has produced not only little wool but it has resulted in producing no wool at all."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, Mr. President, in supporting the motion proposed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, I wish to confine myself only to two or three aspects of the Forest policy of the Government. Firstly, I wish to refer to the policy with regard to the forest utilization. Time and again, special officers have been appointed to investigate into the possibilities of finding further resources which will be yielding profit to the Government. Certain Utilization Officers were appointed for investigating into the possibilities of exploiting certain forest produce, for instance, lac. But the policy has been so ill-framed and ill-guided that no officer was allowed to continue and bring to fruition the work he began. The officer investigates into the matter up to a certain stage and before he could finish the work, he was transferred and given some other duty.

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [12th March 1932

"*There is another product which is called in Tamil kadukkai*—(கடுக்காய்). I do not know what it is called in English—which is much used and which is also exported for various purposes. It is also used for medicinal purposes. If we can thoroughly investigate into the question of the production of this product on a plantation scale it would be a very profitable source of income to the Government; that work seems to have been attended to for some time and given up later.

"The third point is with regard to the planting of new bark trees for tanning purposes. Several forest areas were assigned to either individuals or companies but the Government themselves would not undertake to plant these trees and supply bark to the tanners in the Presidency. This Presidency is well known for the tanning industry; huge quantities of this bark is imported from South Africa. The Government can very well plant these trees and thus encourage that industry in our own country instead of allowing large sums of money to go out to foreign countries. They seem to have undertaken this work to a certain extent and left it there. I do not want to trouble the hon. Members of this House with a long story regarding these small undertakings. But, I would only request the hon. Member to investigate into the question as to what items of work were sought to be improved and what was the progress made and why they stopped short. He may find out whether the results were commensurate with the money and labour spent and why some of the exploitation works were abruptly stopped and what causes led to it.

"Now, Sir, I come to the mechanical exploitation policy of the Government. The Government began with a very big promise of making good profit by means of mechanical exploitation. Not a single scheme of mechanical exploitation in the Forest department has yielded any income worth the name; on the contrary, much machinery was imported at a huge cost and the machinery was subsequently sold merely for the price of scrap iron all within a few years. Even now some machinery is lying idle without being sold for the Government are not able to find any purchaser for the same! A good many buildings were constructed. But in many cases both buildings and machinery are for sale; but nobody is coming forward to buy them; there have been some very poor offers and the Government felt themselves unable to accept those offers.

"A large sum of money was wasted on the Russellkonda Saw Mill. The Chenat Nair Forest exploitation cost the Government a loss of Rs. 10 lakhs, and it is an unparallelled loss to the Government. In this, the Government would not institute an enquiry as to why there was a loss of Rs. 10 lakhs, who were responsible for this loss, and what was the defect in the scheme. If the Chenat Nair Forest Scheme alone resulted in a loss of Rs. 10 lakhs, and if you take into consideration the cost of all the machinery and the buildings in connexion with this and other schemes, the loss would come to at least Rs. 1 crore. Let the Government institute an enquiry by appointing an independent non-official Committee to go into the question of the whole Forest policy

12th March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

of Government during the last 5 or 10 years, and then find out where exactly the defects lay for this colossal failure, where the experts failed, why the experts were not able to give correct speculations and why our anticipations were not realized.

"Then with regard to the establishment to which my hon. Friend from South Kanara referred, there are any number of officers in this department. No appreciable reduction is proposed in their case; there are many Utilization Officers doing no work and various other officers having very small ranges. I do not know, Sir, what prevented the Retrenchment Committee or the hon. the Finance Member from suggesting a reasonable and adequate reduction in the staff of this department. If an independent officer is entrusted with the work of suggesting retrenchment, in this department, I am sure that at least two or three Conservators will have to go. I do not know why the Government have not considered this question in the present straitened state of their finances.

"I do not want to dilate upon the general grievances of the ryots. There are other cut motions which have been given notice of; if there is an opportunity I shall refer to them later. Finally my request to the hon. The Law Member who is in charge of the Forest Portfolio is to appoint a non-official committee to go into the whole forest policy of the Government, to place before the public the events that led to the failure of certain schemes, to find out what the loss to the public revenues is and how it happened, and lastly what steps they have taken to remedy the same."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have also given notice of a cut motion; but in giving that notice, it was not my object to vote down the Demand, but simply to bring to the notice of the hon. Member in charge of the Forest department certain grievances, especially relating to the ryots.

"There has been a change in connexion with the Forest policy inasmuch as they have instituted forest panchayats in certain areas, and they have been handing over the various forest areas to the various panchayats constituted in various localities in the various districts. I am sorry to say, Sir, that the ryot population, the rural population, do not welcome the change. As a matter of fact, it is being very keenly felt that the change is certainly for the worse and not for the better. They are now thinking that the forest system, the forest policy which prevailed before the introduction of the panchayat system was certainly much better than what it is at present. Unfortunately, I am very sorry, Sir, to bring to the notice of hon. Members of this House that owing to factious feelings, owing to disputes and local controversies, the people who constitute the panchayats import their private prejudices and then fix a certain rate of fees which tell very heavily upon the ryots, who have got to let their cattle out for grazing purposes. Well, this has

been brought prominently to the attention of the Cabinet Members who happened to visit the various districts. I believe that when the head of the forest administration also happened to visit the Ceded districts, it was pointedly brought to his notice that the people did not welcome the change, and they would rather like to revert to the old system, the old policy, because they find that under the old policy they were paying less grazing fees than they are now paying under the panchayat system. Particularly, for example, I may refer to one instance. Supposing there are forests adjoining a village and these forests happen to be abutting on one panchayat area on one side and on another area on the other side. Wherever this forest panchayats system exists, the panchayats insist upon the grazing fees being collected not only for the one forest area, but also for the other forest area. That is to say, the ryots have to pay double the fees that they were paying before the introduction of the panchayat system. That is one of the grievances which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member.

"Then there is another grievance yet. No doubt the conservation of forests is one of the most excellent principles which ought to guide the Forest policy; but still I think there are vast tracts of land where there is nominally a forest—which is not really a forest—where we find only a few stunted trees here and there or a few shrubs growing here and there, where in spite of repeated requests of the people of the adjoining villages for disafforesting them, the Government have not been pleased to do so. If those tracts are disafforested, the lands can certainly be assigned to various poor people, especially the depressed classes and other backward classes. Such representations have been made so far as my district is concerned, but those representations were not given any the least effect. That is another grievance which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member.

"Apart from all these, Sir, there is also the general question. So far as the other grievances are concerned, I do not think I need detain the House. They may all be minor grievances which also have to be rectified. With reference to them also I would urge on the hon. the Law Member, as has been urged by the other previous speakers before me, that it is time that there should be a committee formed in order to go into all these questions in great detail—not only into the large administrative rules, but also into the various directions in which retrenchment can be effected not only with respect to exploitation, conservation or disafforestation but also with respect to the various other subjects which might be gone into with advantage by a representative committee consisting of non-officials and officials. It is a long time, Sir, since such a committee has been appointed. In this connexion, I think I will be failing in my duty if I do not bring it to the notice of hon. Members, the yeoman services rendered by that veteran, Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai who, when he was in this Council, agitated very strongly in connexion with the Forest policy of the Government, and who has been greatly instrumental in effecting several reforms in the Forest department, as he did in connexion with the Jail department as well. It is a long time, Sir, since there has been any change in the Forest policy, at

12th March 1932] [Mr. M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar]

any rate a change that was welcomed by the public. There has not been a committee for going into forest questions for a long time. I would therefore request the hon. the Law Member to kindly take the earliest opportunity for instituting a committee which can go into and thrash out all the various details and put their proposals before this House."

* Rao Bahadur T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—" Mr. President, Sir, this department has been recently reorganized and a new policy has been adopted. Some years ago, the Forest policy was criticized as having been wasteful and extravagant; that policy, Sir, was large-scale mechanical exploitation which is unsuited to this Presidency. Happily, though after spending many lakhs of rupees, the Government have realized the wastefulness of that policy and abandoned it. Last year or so, they declared that their policy was one of protection. Of course they have not abandoned completely the policy of exploitation. But they wanted to retain it, having regard to the strictest economy. What I wish now to urge is that, that policy must be pushed to its logical conclusion. All the officials who had been recruited into the department on the basis of the adoption of that older policy must now be ruthlessly cut down and the proportion should be reduced considerably. I am not unaware of the great reduction already made by the Government. At the same time, I for one feel that a greater reduction is possible than has been achieved by the Government."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" What did you do in the Finance Committee? "

Rao Bahadur T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—" Yes, we have done very much in the Finance Committee, and if the hon. Member cared to know what we did, he must have found that we have done very good and valuable work."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" How many meetings did you attend? "

Rao Bahadur T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI :—" Quite a good number. For instance, the Retrenchment Committee recommended the abolition of one circle of conservator; but I personally feel that further reduction is possible. I am not going into details; but with regard to one item, I feel bound to make a suggestion. There is a branch called the Working Plans branch. It was conceived and introduced on the basis of the adoption of the policy of large-scale mechanical exploitation. Now that, that policy has been abandoned, I question where the necessity is for the continuance of that branch. At any rate, the way in which I find that branch has been working seems to be productive of little good. Suppose area A is now taken up for being scrutinized by this branch and then it goes on to B. At the time at which area A will be taken up for execution, the plans prepared for that area will have grown out of date. Consequently a revision of the plans already made is necessitated and this has to go on without an end. Therefore, there is no necessity for

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai] [12th March 1932

the working plans branch; and the way in which it is administered is quite unsatisfactory. At any rate, at present there is a clear necessity for the wholesale suspension of the activities of that branch.

"One of the beneficial points in the policy now declared is allotment of a good portion of the forests as ryots' forests. More than about three thousand square miles have been allotted as ryots' forests. I feel that
45 this policy ought to be extended further and further. But on the other
m. hand I find, in the year 1930–31, about 40 or 50 square miles of these ryots' forests have been resumed.

"I do not know, Sir, why such a curtailment was made and why the policy once adopted has been gone back upon.

"Now, Sir, as regards the Forest College, everybody is agreed that it is not working financially on a sound basis; it is not self-supporting and that we have to spend more than a lakh of rupees on it. At the same time, we cannot say that it is not performing any useful function. No doubt, there are only two such colleges, one in the Madras Presidency and the other at Dehra Dun under the Government of India, where this special training is sought to be given. It is also said that we should have an educational institution to provide men for the services, but this institution caters to the needs of many other provinces, which get their students educated at a rather cheap rate, while fathering the whole expenditure upon us. What I wish to urge on the Government is not the total abolition of the college, but that they should see that the expenses of this institution should be contributed by the other provinces who send their students for study in this institution. Of course, there is a proposal to enhance the fees. Whether that is possible or not, I wish proper representation is made to the other Governments to see that the whole cost of the institution is borne not exclusively by the Madras Government but by the other Governments also.

"With regard to the needs of the agriculturists, of course, I wish that the grazing fees are not enhanced and I trust the Government will see that the ryots are not put to hardship at the hands of the forest menials."

* Mr. P. C. Moses:—"Mr. President, Sir, in the Guntur district there are several reserved forests and they are mere shrub jungles and are not useful for any purpose except for the purpose of grazing cattle. Very near the borders of these forests, there are members of the depressed classes who do not own even a cent of land and they are merely living on wages which are nominal by working as labourers. To find work they move with their families to places which are hundred or two hundred miles away from their native places and after working there for two or three months return to their native place with the size of their families largely reduced on account of deaths. Recently, I visited the reserved forest in my district, the Pillutla and the Regulagada reserves the area of which is about 2,000 acres. These forests are not used for any purpose other than for grazing cattle. I therefore suggest to Government that at least some portions of these forests which are fit

12th March 1932] [Mr. P. C. Moses]

for cultivation may be disafforested and given to the members of the depressed classes. Such a policy will have a double advantage. It will provide land to landless members of the depressed classes and it will also bring a large income to the Government in the shape of land-tax, which is more than grazing fee.

"Secondly, in some of these forests there are quarries. Whenever Government leased these forests to the forest panchayats, they re-lease these quarries also to them. The members of these forest panchayats, very often, are not skilled in the art of quarrying and therefore they issue permits to the quarrymen. The quarrymen get very little income for their hard labour while most of the profit is enjoyed by panchayatdars. Recently, I happened to visit a village which is situated near one of the forests, inside which there is a quarry. In that village many of the villagers are engaged in the profession of quarrying and they formed themselves into a co-operative society for the purpose of quarrying, but the Government have not given this quarry to these people for quarrying. I therefore suggest to the Government that the quarries may be separately leased to the co-operative societies with members who are skilled in the art of quarrying. I hope the hon. Member in charge will give due consideration to my suggestions."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDA spoke in Tamil as follows:—

"பெருங்காடுகளை மாடுகளென ஒதுக்கிவைத்திருப்பதை மறுக்கவில்லை. வெறும் புல் முளைக்காத தரைகளையும் மணல் வெளியையும் காடுகளென ஒதுக்கி வைத்திருப்பது நியாயமாகாது. அதனால் மாடுகன்றுகள் மேய்வதற்கும் இடையூராக முடிகிறது. மரஞ்செடி முளையாத நிலங்களை காட்டிலாகாவினின்றும் நீக்கி தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கும் அடமானங்கள் செய்வது நல்லது. தக்க காட்டு நிலங்களில் காலனிகள் ஏற்படுத்தினால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு நன்மை தருவதோடு அரசாங்கத்தாருக்கும் வரி வசூலாகும். காடுகளில் ஏழைகள் இலவசமாக விறகு முதலானவைகள் எடுத்துக்கொள்ள அனுமதிக்கவேண்டும். ஆதிதிராவிட மக்களுக்கு மற்றைய இலாகாக்களில் வேலை கிடைப்பது மிகவும் அருமையாயிருக்கிறது. அவர்களில் பலர் படித்துள்ளார்கள். அவரவர்களது தகுதிக்கேற்ப பாரஸ்டு ரேய்ஞ்சர், கார்டு, பியூன் முதலான காட்டிலாகா பதவிகளையேனும் அளிக்கும்படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்".

Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not propose to deal with the vital question of the policy involved in this cut motion, as hon. Members who have spoken before me have dealt with one or the other aspects of the question. I will merely confine myself to one or two questions of considerable local importance in the district from which I come. There is a system which obtains—and which is peculiar to the district of Nellore—called the kancha system. I am told that such a system does not exist in any other district in the Presidency and the reasons which have actuated the continuance of that system in the Nellore district seem to me to be rather peculiar. I do not propose to go into this question in very great detail now, because I understand that the Government are examining the whole question. In answering a question on this matter, which I put in this Council some time ago, the hon. the Law Member told me that he would call for a report as to the working of this system from the Chief Conservator of

Forests and also from the Collector of Nellore. Subsequently, I learnt that the Collector went round and inspected some 30 or 40 villages near the forests which are most affected by the working of this system, particularly in Udayagiri and that he came into contact personally with all shades of opinion among the villagers and that he has come to certain conclusions. I really do not know whether those conclusions have been communicated to the Government and what exactly his conclusions are.

"Sir, the main object with which I have tabled this cut motion is to ascertain from the hon. the Law Member at what stage the whole matter stands and whether the Government will consider the whole question. In this connexion, I wish to state for the information of the hon. the Law Member one or two aspects of the question so that he may consider them when the whole question is taken up by Government for consideration. Sir, so far as this system is concerned, the main object for which the department sought to perpetuate the existence of this system was in order that some kind of grass may be regenerated without its being molested by cattle being driven into the forests during a period of five months in the year and thereafter certain blocks of the forests may be suitably divided and leased out or auctioned and given to the highest bidder belonging to certain villages by means of certain prescribed agreements. Now, the only advantage of that system appears to be that there would be some grass regenerated during the five months' closure period on which the cattle would be able to graze to some advantage. Probably, if the forest is allowed for grazing throughout the year, there will not be much scope for the growth of this kind of grass. Perhaps that is the only justification for the system, but the disadvantages of the system which were times without number brought to the notice of the authorities, far outweigh this sole advantage. In one voice, all the persons who are affected by the system do not want it for several reasons. To start with, there is the question of cost, the prohibitive cost involved in the system. The cost per unit as prescribed by the department—the cow-unit being two acres, but I believe it would be certainly more than that—is four annas per acre. According to their own calculation, it comes to eight annas a cow-unit. The ryot has to pay not only eight annas to the Government, he has also to pay the neighbouring zamindari a large amount, for he has to drive his cattle during the closure period to the forests belonging to the neighbouring zamindari. So that, even according to the calculations of the authorities, the ryot has to pay more than Rs. 2 per unit. Unfortunately, in those districts where there is practically no wet cultivation, only wealthy people in the villages can afford to pay this heavy cost for grazing the cattle. You can thus see, what an amount of ruin it involves to the poor villagers, so that on the ground of cost, this system is very much more costly than the other system that is obtaining in other parts of the Presidency.

"Now, Sir, under the permit system, a ryot can drive his cattle in the whole range of the forest for which he has obtained a permit, as against only two acres according to the kancha system that is obtaining in my district. Very often it so happens in my district that only rich

12th March 1932] [Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur]

people are able to bid and take leases in forests. Unlike persons belonging to the deltaic taluks of the district, the people who come under the kancha system are not able to enjoy the benefits of the grass that has been allowed to be regenerated in the area. So that preferential right is being as a matter of fact enjoyed by the people of the deltaic taluks, whereas, the people belonging to the villages under the kancha system are suffering from a disadvantage which deprives them practically of the use of their kanchas and the result is that there has been an alarming rate of cattle mortality. The figures will justify my statement. It will appear that the breed of cattle in my district which was well known before has really deteriorated considerably now and the main possession of the villagers in most areas being cattle, they have also gone down in quality as well as numbers. These are of course secondary reasons.

' Again, Sir, it has been said that the tyranny of the forest guard is perhaps a worse substitute for the tyranny of the villager who is the kanchadar for the time being. Under the forest guard system, if the villagers feel that they have got a grievance, there is the superior forest officer to whom there can be an appeal. But so far as the villagers zulum is concerned, there is little room for appeal, in view of the existence of factions in the villages. These are really questions which Government should consider. There are also several other aspects of the question which have to be gone into.

" The whole question is whether when the people do not want a system and when the other system, namely, the permit system, has been working very satisfactorily in other parts of the Presidency, why the Government should maintain such a system in one district alone. Of course, the Forest department would like to perpetuate the system, because they are taking something like an academical interest in maintaining the system.

" Again and again, reference has been made to the report of the Linlithgow Commission where some observations have been made amounting to an appreciation of the working of a similar system in some other places. I am sure, when the question is deeply examined, it can be very clearly shown that the system that that Commission was countenancing was radically and fundamentally different from the kancha system, whose hardship on the poor ryots has now at least been realized by the authorities in the district. Therefore, Sir, I submit that Government will be pleased to go into the whole question. It may even be worth while to have a small committee, a very small committee, to go into one question, without involving any cost by way of travelling allowances—it may consist of the District Magistrate, the District Forest Officer, and one or two non-official members who have an intimate knowledge of the working of the system in those taluks and who will be in a position to consider and formulate a scheme as to the exact way in which the present kancha system can be substituted and whether we may not be well-advised to go back entirely to the permit system or at least to suggest some sort of a mixed system by which one or two evils of the permit system can also be obviated and also the disadvantages of the kancha system may be eliminated. I therefore suggest for the consideration of the hon. the Law Member that the whole question may be

gone into and its disposal expedited. I would also request the hon. Member to be pleased to place the reports received from the District Collector and from the Chief Conservator of Forests on the table of the House and also before coming to final conclusions in the matter he will be pleased to consult non-official local opinion in the matter."

.m. * Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to speak on this very important subject of Forest policy because it affects the daily life of the villager and the voter who is our master and therefore we cannot afford to neglect him and his interests when such an important matter is to be considered by this House. I rise to ask the hon. the Law Member a few questions regarding the forest panchayats. I do not propose to travel the whole ground of the establishment of forest panchayats or the administration of the forest areas; but I wish to know from him how far the Forest policy has been used in associating the people of the area with the administration of the forests. In other words I want to know from the hon. Gentleman how far the extension of the forest panchayats has proceeded as a result of the policy of the Government. Secondly, I want to ask him whether it is a fact that the ryot managed areas of forests have been reduced during the last few years or whether they have been expanded more. I wish to ask whether the assistance of the village panchayats has been taken for the better management of the forest areas. It is known that various forest panchayats have been of great help to the administration of the Forest department. If that is so, how is it that the forest panchayat have been discouraged in some places. Much should be said to the credit of the villagers. They have local interests and local knowledge and if to these are utilized with official experience, they would certainly carry on the administration of the area entrusted to their care and best advantage could be derived by the people of the village. If, on the other hand, the villagers are not taken into confidence by the department, a great deal of trouble and friction will arise. It is only if an area is allotted to the village that the villagers could know how to manage the area. My hon. Friend from Nellore, Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, ably put up the case of the district from which he comes. I understood him to say that the permit system is more advantageous than the panchayat system. If that is so, there are variations between the conditions obtaining in each district. If it is the case of a peculiar difficulty in the district of Nellore, I am sure they ought to be overcome by taking the people into association with the administration of the forests. I consider, Sir, that whatever may be the nature of the mistakes and abuses which the panchayats may commit, greater encouragement should be given to the local people so that they may gain proper experience of local matters."

Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, I did not state that the panchayat system did not work satisfactorily; but that the *kancha system obtaining in my district* was unsatisfactory."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" I stand corrected and I am glad that my hon. Friend from Nellore agrees with me that the kancha system

12th March 1932] [Sir A. P. Patro]

or the kacha system should give place to the panchayat system. (Laughter). I am sure that no one is more anxious or more eager than the hon. Member in charge of the department to see that the various panchayats are expanded. I must say, Sir, that the expansion of the forest panchayat system should proceed in a manner that would satisfy us and not the department at all. There may be defects in the panchayat administration, trivial in their nature, but the principle of expansion should not be lost sight of. Without entrusting such things to the people, and without entrusting things of special interest to the villager how can you ever think of infusing a spirit of self-help and self-reliance among them and make them able to build up a system of self-government. It is considered by some that they are illiterate; that there are factions amongst the villages; and such being the case the management of the panchayat area could not be efficiently looked after when they are ignorant and divided by factions. But these, Sir, will be sunk when their common interests are at stake. When the responsibility of fixing the number of cattle of the small ryot and that of the big ryot is theirs, and when by common consent they have to distribute amongst themselves equally and equitably grazing areas such factions and quarrels will disappear. These could not be valid grounds against the expansion of the system of panchayats. I am sure the hon. Member will agree with me when I say that instead of reducing the extent of ryot-managed areas and discouraging the forest panchayat system, every encouragement should be given to the panchayats to do the useful work they are now doing. I am glad that the system inaugurated some time ago and that classes 4 and 5 have practically been abolished and have been completely given over to the control of the local panchayats.

" Sir, let me come to the zamindari forests. If permission is given to the zamindar to apply forest regulations, it should also be insisted that he should establish forest panchayats to avoid trouble. In the Peddakundi Estate, I have known that matters are in a very very deplorable state. The ryots are very badly treated. The forests in so many cases extend up the backyard of the villager's house and he could not send his cattle there. If he does this, he is penalized.

" There is another aspect of this matter which I would like the hon. Member to consider. It is the protection of game. In so many places, for example the Dharakota Estate, game is practically destroyed by the ryots themselves. It will be one method if power is given to the zamindar to grant licences to kill or hunt game. There should be some sort of restriction in the matter of shooting down game. If such a thing were to continue, the whole forests will be denuded of game. The zamindar should have freedom.

" In the zamindari areas the poor ryots are harassed ; and my hon. Friend, Sriman Patnaik, will be able to make a scathing criticism of the present state of affairs there. In conclusion, I will ask the hon. the Law Member to see that the rights and privileges of ryots are given due recognition with reference to the administration of their own forest areas and that the same are extended gradually."

[12th March 1932

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, I was thinking whether the Members of this House were right in giving themselves and others all the trouble and labour involved in preparing their speeches and delivering them in this House. I was led to this feeling when I found that one or two of the Members of the Government, to whom the subject pertains as much as to the hon. Member technically in charge of the demand were absent with their Secretaries also. Anyhow, I suppose we have to do our duty, though we are in a deserted Council Chamber and prefer to do it.

" I want to know from the Government, Sir, whether their policy in regard to the administration of the forest reserves has changed in recent years. I want to know from them whether the civil population have or have not rights to the forests in their areas. I am tempted to ask this with reference to the military farm area in Bellary district. There you have got a huge forest area which is not needed now for military purposes and yet it is reserved for military use. I do not know in what contingency it is to be used. The other day, I was travelling with one of the Military officers and I was given to understand that all the grass the department wanted could be got from Bangalore and at a cheaper cost. If the hon. Member in charge of this subject will look up, he will find that during the Great War, he was able to get any amount of supply of grass from the Nallamalai Hills. These hills have an inexhaustible supply. Sir, is it fair that the civil population of the district should be denied grass from what is called the military grass area in the district?

" Sir, reference has been made to the forest panchayats. The idea at first was that these forests should be given to the people to be managed by themselves and the Government should retain minimum power of interference. But, I see, Sir, that their actual policy has been to interfere to the maximum possible extent in these matters. What does it matter to them how a forest panchayat is managed so long as the forest in their management does not deteriorate and is kept in as good a condition as it was when handed over to them.

15 " As regards the ryots, Sir, for example, the theory with reference
m. to them is one and the practice another. The panchayats are supposed to fix the scale of fees, but as remarked by one or two speakers who preceded me, it is really the Board Member and his subordinates who are fixing those rates compelling the forest panchayats to accept them. Is it the policy of the Government to treat these forests as a source of revenue? I respectfully submit that this should not be made a source of revenue to Government. I want them to examine and find out what they were getting when the forests were under their control. I often think that they were losing on their upkeep than getting anything out of them. They were spending lots of money on establishment and they were not getting very much out of them. But the moment the control of the forests was transferred to the forest panchayats the Government went about fixing such and such an amount shall be the fee per acre, so much shall be the fee per cattle, so much shall be spent on establishments and so forth with a view to extract the maximum out of the ryots,

12th March 1932] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

" Then again, Sir, the methods pursued in the splitting of the forests is something very inconvenient, as remarked by my friend, Sir Patro. Formerly the Government had one big block in which the people of the different villages took their cattle and grazed them. Now it is divided into several small plots, and the result has been that in one plot there is grass and in another plot there is water ; and if a ryot wants to take his cattle to the plot containing water he should have a special permit for that, for which it is needless to say he should pay a certain fee. So, I submit care should be taken to see that the people are not unnecessarily harassed.

" And again, Sir, there was one advantage when these forests were under the control of the Government, which advantage, I think, should be continued even now though the control continues to be with the panchayats. In days of scarcity of fodder, the Government were in the past throwing open these forests for grazing. Simply because they have an outsider whom they can squeeze and squeeze and get as much money as they want out of him the poor ryot should not be made to suffer from the change in control in times of famine. So I submit that the Government should come forward and state definitely what their policy is, whether they recognize the rights of the civil population to the forests in their districts and whether they are prepared to allow these panchayats to develop as best they can with as little interference as possible from outside."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, the policy of the Government with regard to forests needs a thorough change. No doubt, Sir, the Forest department was organized with the purpose of conserving the forests in the best interests of the people and especially of the agriculturists. But in practice it is working to the great hardship and oppression of the ryots. I think, Sir, it would be too much to expect of this Government to radically change their policy with regard to the forests, since it has been made clear from the discussions during the last few days that they are not prepared to shoulder the responsibility of any bold and popular policy, but they want to take shelter under the prospective and illusive provincial autonomy that we are going to have. (Laughter.) Therefore I wish to confine myself to a few grievances of the ryots, which, if the Government are willing to redress, they could easily do. The one grievance which affects the ryots very seriously is their policy of reserving certain areas which do not at all require to be reserved. Sir, there are instances in many taluks in my own district where the Forest department have reserved certain areas which ought not to be reserved at all. Because there are neither valuable trees, such as sandalwood or other timber trees, which need to be conserved, nor is there any green vegetation to be conserved ? I think these reserves are full of shrubs and prickly-pear, and I think the Forest department are reserving them only for oppressing the ryots.

" Another serious hardship is that of taking the reserve line very near cultivable lands. There are many instances in my district where the reserve line has actually abutted the cultivable land so much so that when the ryot after ploughing his land unyokes the bulls they just stray

into the reserves, and at once the forest guard, who is ready at hand, catches them, and unless his mamool is paid, a case is put up against the ryot ; and thus not only is he prevented from doing his daily labour, but has to incur a considerable loss of money by paying a heavy fine and attending court. In this connexion I would also say that the forest cases seem to be treated on a different footing than the other ordinary cases. In a case in which I myself recently appeared about 60 persons were accused of cutting trees in a Government area. They were all fined. And subsequent to that I met the particular magistrate at some function and he told me, 'There was absolutely no evidence against these 60 people yet I had to convict them because it was a forest case'."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I wish the hon. Member hands over to me the name of this particular magistrate in private. I shall see he is punished."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" I have no objection; but what is the use ? These 60 persons have alredy been punished."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The Magistrate will be punished."

* Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" There is a particular range kept up in the Salem district, wherein a portion of the North Arcot district is tacked on. And I am reliably informed that that area of the North Arcot district is tacked on to that reserve called the Krishnagiri range because the area in the Salem district is not by itself sufficient for keeping on that particular range, and therefore the Forest department have necessarily to tack on this area from the North Arcot district in order to run this range. The area in North Arcot has absolutely no trees, nor is there green vegetation. I personally visited that area and I was surprised to find it a 'reserved' area. I brought that matter to the notice of the hon. Law Member, and as usual he sent down the paper to the Collector, who in his turn sent it down to the Forest department and they sent the report that my suggestion should not be accepted, and thus the matter ended. If the Government cannot launch upon a broad and popular policy in the interests of the people, at least this much the hon. Member if he has got a desire can do, namely, alleviate the sufferings of the ryots in small matters.

" In this connexion I would suggest to the hon. the Law Member to appoint a very small committee to go into this question of reserving the areas which do not need to be reserved and also to go into the question of removing reserve lines at least to a distance of quarter of a mile or half a mile from the cultivable lands. I think during the general discussion of the Budget the hon. Law Member said that if this policy is adopted the tendency would be to encroach upon lands, and so there will be no lands left as common lands. But whatever may have been the case in the past when the Forest department was not sufficiently organized and the encroachment was allowed to take place, now since the Forest department is well organized and also the Revenue department is quite alert to look into the matter and prevent encroachment, that argument cannot hold good now. And even for the moment accepting that argument,

12th March 1932] [Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar]

cannot the Revenue department be called upon to see that no encroachment takes place ? It is quite possible, if the Revenue department wants to prevent encroachment. Though it may appear a very small thing for the hon. Law Member sitting here in his chamber upstairs, the hardships endured by the ryots in the muffasal cannot be realized.

"Then, Sir, I also wish to bring to the notice of the Government the oppression by the subordinate forest officials. The rules and the circulars of the Government issued through the heads of the departments may be allright. But they have no idea of the oppression that actually takes place through these subordinate officials. Therefore, Sir, an impression should be created, if the Government are prepared to safeguard the interests of the ryots that any matter of oppression brought to their notice will be severely punished. If that impression is created in the minds of the subordinate officials in the districts, I think that would go a great way towards preventing this oppression.

"One word, Sir, with regard to the commercial undertakings of the Government. No doubt the commercial undertakings that had been taken up during the last few years have been a failure. But on account of that Government should not get discouraged and entirely give up their commercial undertakings. The mistake was that they, judging from the results—I must say, without properly investigating into the merits of the case—launched upon great schemes which have ultimately ended in failure. Therefore, Sir, they must take a lesson and instead of launching upon big schemes they should undertake small schemes suited to our country. In our country no mechanical exploitation can successfully be worked up. The labour is very cheap and is easily available and therefore I would advise Government to take up small schemes. Once more I would entreat the hon. Law Member at least to try to redress the grievances of the ryots with regard to reserve areas."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai :—"Mr. President, Sir, the forests are considered to be the national assets of a country. But when we take the policy adopted by this Government I do not think its utility is in the interests of the sons of the soil. Recently we find from the Administration Reports that have been circulated to us that the Government have reorganized the Forest department. They have reorganized only in so far as the working of the forests is concerned. But they have not touched the various suggestions that we brought forward in this Council year after year. I entirely agree with my friend, Mr. Shetty in characterising this department as top heavy. While reorganizing this department they did not take into account the grievances of the lower subordinates, I mean, the forest rangers who are in close touch with the working of these forests.

"I know as a matter of fact memorials were submitted to the 3. Government as to the grievances of the forest rangers and I do not know p. what the Government have done in the matter. I have given several token cuts under this Demand to put forward certain grievances which require the Government's attention. Sir, the Forest department issued permits for occupying lands very near the reserved forests. But those

people who enjoy these lands are always at the mercy of the various rangers. Even at the time of enjoyment and renewal these poor peasants are put to great difficulties by these various subordinates. To bring an instance before this House I would like to say that an individual living between Coonoor and Mettupalayam Ghat road has been enjoying a piece of land for nearly 30 years. Originally it was granted to him by the Revenue department but subsequently owing to some magic it has come under the Forest department. The land has been in his possession for 30 years, but the Government have now issued notice to quit it. I do not think the policy adumbrated by the Forest department is to help the poor. The second point I wish to urge is that year after year some of the representatives of the depressed classes have been requesting the Government to allow them free timber for domestic purposes and to give them some timber for housing purposes. Sir, these are very minor matters and the department can very well give these benefits. In page 22 of Volume II of the Forest Department Manual the Khonds are given a right for free timber for agricultural purposes and also free grazing for cattle. In page 248 the Badagas are allowed to remove dry fuel at a small fee. Sir, when privileges of this nature are given to a certain section of the inhabitants living in the forests as well as near the forests, why not such privileges be extended to those depressed classes who live very near the forests? Of course we do not ask for the timber to be brought from the Nilgiris to Madras for the benefit of the depressed classes, but we are asking only for those people who are living very near the forests.

" The third point is the oppression by the forest guards in cases where people unknowingly remove small twigs and other things for their use. Generally, Sir, these forest guards wish to make certain cases every year. They will be idle for the major portion of the year and at the end they want some cases and they bring any man to the forest rangers and they are charged with very high compounding fees. When the affected parties are not satisfied with the fines they go to the magistrates. Unfortunately I understand the magistrates have been given orders not to reduce the compounding fees but to add more. It is not a good policy. The magistracy should be left alone. If there have been instructions, how can we expect justice? Now taking the question that much has been done to improve the lot of the hill tribes, as far as I know, it is not so. They live in malarial tracts and nothing substantial has been done to improve their health or pay which is inadequate for the good work they do in the forests."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order. The Demand has to be put at 3-50 p.m. The hon. the Law Member may like to have at least 15 minutes. So, the hon. Member may finish his speech."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" I would like to say that the hill tribes who are in the forests are not given the privileges they require. In a conference held at Coimbatore the following resolution was passed: This conference views with awe the utter negligence of the hill tribes by the authorities as well as the public at large in allowing them to sink into extinction and urges upon the Government to restore

with proper safeguards and privileges their original homes on the hills and in the forests. With the observations made by Government I do not entirely agree. I think the condition of the hill tribes is particularly neglected and the small wages paid to them do not go direct into their hands. A major portion of that goes to forest guards. An enquiry into the conduct of the officers of the department will help the hill tribes."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" My friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, and several others referred to what they call the forest policy. My Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, particularly referred to some events that took place about the year 1920–21. He said that urgent and frantic orders were issued by Government to introduce the canal system in the Nilambur river and that when the work was going on, the Nilambur Tirumalpad gave a notice claiming that the river was his own. That is an event of the past. I am sorry that such an event took place. But that has nothing to do with the forest policy to-day or with the forest policy of the Government in recent years. Then my friend referred to what took place between 1921—25. He referred particularly to the mechanical exploitation on a very big scale. No doubt the Government undertook mechanical exploitation on a very big scale between 1921—25, but these were really experiments and they continued for some years. Experiments sometimes end in success and sometimes end in failures. In the case of the Chenat Nair forests and Olavakkot sawmill which really formed part of the Chenat Nair Exploitation scheme, the experiment was a failure. It was based on clear felling in order that the mill might be fed. The Government was not able to find a suitable market for the various new timbers and the experiment proved a failure. As soon as the Government found that the experiment was a failure, they abandoned the Chenat Nair Exploitation scheme. The Olavakkot sawmill has been closed and the Russellkonda sawmill was also closed and several small mills, one in Wynad, one in South Kanara district and the one on Mount Stuart have all been closed. But I may tell Mr. Basheer Ahmed that though there were failures and losses, on the whole these mechanical exploitations taken together, were not a failure. For instance, in the Nilambur Valley scheme we had a profit of about 15 lakhs. So also in Mount Stuart scheme we had a profit. On the whole, deducting the losses from the profits, we had a profit of about ten lakhs. Nevertheless finding that experiments of mechanical exploitation on a big scale are not suited to this country, the Government have given up the scheme. With reference to this, my Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, gave a sort of advice to the Government, namely, that the Government should not be frightened by these failures. I am thankful to him. He asked us to try these experiments on a small scale. That is exactly what the Government is doing. We have not given it up altogether. But those grand exploitation schemes referred to by Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar were found to be failures and we have given them up. But mechanical exploitation on a small scale is being tried even now and it is hoped that it will end in success.

" *Before going into the details, I may say that the forest policy in very broad outlines is this. As I submitted, mechanical exploitation*

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [12th March 1932

scheme on a grand scale has been given up. These depend for their success amongst other things on what is known in the language of the department as clear felling, that is, felling all trees in a given area. This policy has been abandoned. Forests are now divided, as my hon. Friends are aware, generally into two classes, the first class being the reserved forests which are in the possession of the Forest department. These are utilized for the purpose of growing big timber and also for the purpose of preservation of moisture. Thus, these big forests which are in the possession of the Forest department are intended for these two purposes. The other class of forests has been handed over to panchayats, so that they may manage them themselves. The area of these panchayat forests is between 3,000 and 4,000 square miles. With reference to these big forests which are still in the possession of the Forest department, the system of extracting timber, which is now generally adopted is what is known as the system of select felling. Trees that are useful for purposes of big timber are felled and then the sylvicultural experts plant the vacant areas according to scientific methods.

.45 .m. "Then again, the policy with reference to the grazing and green manure leaves is this. The forests that have been handed over to the forest panchayats are really those that are intended for grazing and the supply of green manure leaves. Wherever possible, the Government are allowing the removal of green manure leaves and also grazing in the forests which are kept in their own possession. But the policy of the Government with reference to green manure leaves is gradually to restrict their removal to the panchayat forests. The Government is also encouraging the agricultural population to sow green manure crops on their lands, and for this purpose the Government have remitted the irrigation tax on lands sown with green manure crops. The Agricultural department is also supplying the ryots with seeds for this green manure. I may also say that the rates for green manure are not the same in all the districts; they vary according to the conditions of each district.

"Then with regard to grazing, the policy is this. The ryots should look up to their own forests, the panchayats' forests, for grazing. The Government forests are not intended for grazing. Nevertheless, wherever possible, these Government forests are thrown open for grazing at rates varying again according to the local conditions. These in the main are the Forest policies of the Government.

"My friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and some others referred to the establishment that is maintained in the Forest department. I may tell them that there has been a considerable reduction in the establishment. For instance, the total number of Indian Forest officers has been reduced and in the provincial service, the number of extra Assistant Conservators has been reduced from 43 to 35. The Government carefully considered their forest policy recently and as a result of that consideration, the number of gazetted officers has been reduced. It has also been resolved that when there is a vacancy in the ranks of the Indian Forest Officers, that vacancy should be filled up by Provincial Officers, that is, by Madras Forest Officers. Then there has

12th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

been a reduction in the number of forest subordinates also. The rangers were reduced from 207 to 175, foresters from 814 to 527 and forest guards from 2,722 to 1,544. In this connexion, I may refer to a suggestion of my hon. Friend Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai. He referred to the recommendations made by the Retrenchment Committee. Those recommendations of course do not touch these reductions, because these were made prior to the recommendations. The recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee are now being considered by the Government. It is too early to say what the results of those considerations will be."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" We want the reductions to be at the top and not at the bottom."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" My friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar asked where was the need for a Forest Engineer. Now, in the Forest department, sometimes, big engineering works have to be done, some bridges have to be constructed and other big works have to be done. The officers of the ordinary Engineering department will not always be available for doing such works for the Forest department. Hence the need for a Forest Engineer.

" Then my friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. A. B. Shetty and others referred to the expenses of the Forest College, and said that it is working at a loss. I am glad that in this connexion one of my friends who spoke on this question said that though it is working at a loss it is necessary to maintain it. I believe it was my friend Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar who said so. The Forest College is intended mainly for training rangers to the Forest department. So long as the Forest department exists, rangers are necessary, and training has to be given to them and some machinery for giving this training is also necessary; and the only machinery that can give this training to these rangers in our province is the Forest College. Take the other educational institutions, the Presidency College, the Engineering College and other colleges. These are maintained not for purposes of profit, and I dare say that these institutions are run by Government at a loss. Thus, the question of profit or loss is not an element to be taken into consideration in maintaining an institution like the Forest College. It was further said that students from the Central Provinces and Bombay are being trained in this college. No doubt it is so. So long as we are maintaining a college, it will reduce our expenditure though it may not give us a profit, if we admit students from other provinces. Again, since the college began work, there has been an arrangement between the Government of India and this Government under which students from provinces like Bengal, United Provinces, the Punjab and other provinces which are near Dehra Dun send their students for training to the Dehra Dun College, and students from South India, from Central India and from South Indian States are sent to the Forest College in Coimbatore. It is under this arrangement that students from other provinces are being taken here. As regards the suggestion to enhance the fees, I do not think

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [12th March 1932

it will be possible. However, I will consider that suggestion. Then my friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar said that the number of students in recent years in the Forest College at Coimbatore is very small. He is right. Because, as I said, we have reduced the permanent strength of rangers, there is a superfluity of rangers now in the department. Therefore the number of students in the Coimbatore College is now less than what it was.

"I shall pass on to some observations regarding forest panchayats made by my hon. Friend Sir Patro and Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar. Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar said that there are factions in the forest panchayats, and that the fees levied by them are higher than that levied by the Forest department. I am sorry to hear that there are factions in the panchayats. As a matter of fact, he is quite right when he said that fees levied by the forest panchayats for grazing have been higher than the fees levied by the department of Government; so much so that in one instance, in the district to which my hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar belongs, we had to raise the rates of grazing fees, so that they may not be lower than the rate levied by the panchayats."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"May I say that in order to justify the increase which the panchayats were compelled to make, the Government resorted to this device of making Government rates higher?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That does not speak well either of the public spirit or the capacity of the panchayats.

"Then Mr. Yahya Ali referred to the kancha system. Government have called for reports. The report of the Collector has been received but that of the Chief Conservator has not yet been received; and when that report is received, the Government will consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend.

"Then some members stated that there are lands which are fit for cultivation within reserved areas and that these should be thrown open for cultivation. I may tell my friends who made this suggestion that recently the Government considered this question very carefully, and that about 14 square miles of land within these reserved forests were disafforested and thrown open for cultivation, about 6 square miles in the Guntur district, about 2 square miles in the Anantapur and Kurnool districts and rest of the area in the Godavari and Madura districts. The reserve forests are intended for the purposes I have already mentioned; but whenever we find that there are lands fit for cultivation within the boundaries of these reserved forests, we disafforest them and throw them open for cultivation.

"My friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, referred to the forest boundary and said that when the forest boundary is very near the village, annoyance is caused to the people and they are prosecuted when

12th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

their cattle stray into the forests. I dare say such difficulties do exist, but the remedy suggested is not always possible to be adopted. What is suggested is to push back the boundary; but when the boundary is pushed back, the village boundary will go forward, and ultimately the reserved forests will disappear. However, if my friends in the Council will bring to the notice of the Government specific instances of real hardship, they are willing to consider them.

"I believe that I have answered the major criticisms of my friends. Then, Sir Patro wants an extension of the forests under panchayats. I shall consider that suggestion. But I am afraid that there is not much of forests to be transferred to these panchayats hereafter. However, I shall examine the question, and if it is possible to transfer more forests to the management of the panchayats, I shall do so."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was then put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND V—REGISTRATION—TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move— 4 p

'*That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 26,80,400 *under Demand V—Registration—Transferred*'"

Mr. G. Sriramulu:—"*I beg to move*—

'*That the allotment of Rs.* 26,80,400 *for Registration be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"The object in moving this motion is to impress upon the Government the necessity of taking immediate steps to maintain communal proportion in permanent service.

"Sir, in answer to a question put by my hon. Friend, Mr. G. Simhachalam, regarding the appointment of Setti Balijas in the Registration Department, it is said that there are three sub-registrars and five clerks employed in the Registration Department. This answer is comprehensive and I want to make a distinction between Setti Balijas, residing in Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool districts and those residing in East and West Godavari and Kistna districts. The Setti Balijas residing in East and West Godavari and Kistna districts are mainly toddy drawers, but the Setti Balijas, residing in Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddapah and Kurnool districts belong to quite a different sect. Now the Setti Balijas residing in the districts of East and West Godavari and Kistna number about 8 lakhs and of the 8 lakhs of people there are only four graduates residing in

[Mr. G. Sriramulu] [12th March 1932

those districts. Of the four graduates, only two have been appointed as probationers in the Registration Department. Of these two one is serving in the East Godavari district and the other in the registration district of West Godavari and Kistna. But none of the two has been confirmed, though the one residing in the Kistna—West Godavari district was entertained about four years ago and the one serving in the East Godavari district was entertained about two years ago. There are only two clerks who are working in the department and one of them has been confirmed and working in the West Godavari. With regard to the other who was working a year ago as an acting clerk in the sub-registrar's office at Razole, he is still working as an acting clerk in the same district. The acting clerk's name is Kandregula Ramamurti. I understand that two Muhammadan clerks were confirmed in preference to this Ramamurti, though he has put in more service than the two Muhammadans. I do not know what justification there is for the Government to confirm the two Muhammadan clerks in preference to this Ramamurti. In that respect I would request the hon. Minister for Public Works and Registration to see that an equitable representation of the Setti Balijas is maintained in the permanent service in the Registration Department. If the hon. Minister is pleased to comply with my request the candidates in question and the community of Setti Balijas in general will be very much encouraged in the public service.''

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Sir, it was last year that I brought forward a cut motion under this very Demand and the hon. Minister had assured us that he would be able to carry out the purposes for which he is there. I do not want anything from him except that I wish him to carry out the principles for which he stands and for which he is there. He gave us assurances not only on the floor of this House but also outside. I think he has always the will to carry out the principles for which he is there, but it is rather regrettable that he is not in a position to carry out that will into actual practice. If we are to look to the results achieved by him with reference to the promises that he has made, I must say that we are disappointed at the results and he has not been able to carry out his promises. Sir, rightly or wrongly, the communal Government Order is there and it has been accepted by the Government and it is the duty of the Government to give effect to it, both in letter and spirit. I do not think I need trouble the House with facts and figures which were placed before him even last year to show the injustice done to the Muslim community in the matter of representation in the Registration Department. Even though it was proved beyond doubt that their due share according to the communal Government Order had not been given to them, and even though the hon. Minister promised to make adequate reparation for the injustice done to them by giving them the fullest share in the department, I am afraid even now that promise stands unfulfilled. But, however, as he has expressed his willingness to give effect to the principles of the communal Government Order, so far as

12th March 1932] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

the representation of Muhammadans in this department is concerned, I do not think it is necessary for me to quote facts and figures again before this House. I have no doubt that he will give due consideration to the claims of Mussalmans in this department, both in the matter of promotion and also in the matter of recruitment.

"Now, Sir, there is one other matter which has been hanging in the balance and which has given room for discontent not only among Muslims but among other communities also, and that is this: a large number of vacancies has remained unfilled for the last so many years. We have not been able to get a satisfactory reply from the Government as to why they should allow these vacancies to remain unfilled for such a long time. What I understand is that it has been decided on principle that, so far as promotions go, half of the vacancies should be filled with reference to the communal Government Order and the other half by promotion from the services themselves. How far that principle is correct or not is a different question. Even with regard to what has been decided upon by the Government, it is very regrettable to find that in spite of the lapse of such a long time, that principle too has not been given effect to. What I understand is that this matter is being tossed from department to department and from officer to officer with the net result that these poor officials in the Government are the victims of delay on the part of the Government. The only appeal that I would make to the hon. Minister is that it is not enough if he expresses his willingness to carry out his promise, but it is his duty to find out ways and means to carry out the principles for which he stands and the solemn promises that he has been making on the floor of this House.

"Sir, these vacancies which have remained unfilled for such a long time has created another trouble and that is, those persons who are entitled to get promotions with reference to these vacancies are, strictly speaking, entitled to them with retrospective effect. I know that the hon. Minister will at once say that it is impossible to consider the question of giving retrospective effect to these cases in view of the financial stringency under which the Government are labouring at present. I do realize that there is financial stringency, but still it is also the duty of the Government to see that justice is done to these poor officials who have been doing their work satisfactorily and who have been looking to the Government for promotions and preferments according to the accepted rules. If these promotions have been kept in abeyance it is certainly not owing to the fault of these officers themselves. If at all they have been kept in abeyance, it is certainly due to the indifference or the negligence of the Government. Whatever justification they may put forward for having delayed these matters, it is not in the public interests that the rightful claims of these poor officials should be allowed to suffer. After having delayed these promotions for such a long time, to tell these officials at last 'well, even though we are responsible for this long delay and you are not responsible, yet the victim ought to be yourselves and not anybody else,' is not fair. Sir, even in pleading poverty there ought to be

some fairness. I do not think the Government will be justified in pleading financial stringency in giving retrospective effect to these promotions. So I appeal to the Government not to delay any further but to give effect to whatever principles they have decided upon.

" Before I sit down, I once again appeal to the hon. the Second Minister to be strong and to find out ways and means to carry out the solemn promises that he has made on the floor of this House and to see, of course, along with the claims of the other communities, that the claims of the Muslim community are given due consideration and they are given their due share of representation in this department."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA :—" The motion which I want to move is for the purpose of discussing the policy of the Government with regard to recruitment of Sub-Registrars."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Am I to understand that the hon. Member is moving a new motion or speaking on this particular motion ? "

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA :—" I am speaking on the same motion.

5 p.m. " I want to deal with the question of the recruitment of Sub-Registrars. I believe there are no definite rules on the point, at any rate, I have not been able to find out any. I applied to the Secretariat Library for a copy of the manual containing those rules, if any, but was told that the departmental rules were confidential and could not be given to me. Often when we ask questions in the Council we are referred to such and such rules, but when we ask for a copy of the rules we are told that they are confidential. Of course, if I had applied direct to the head of the department he would have told me the rules, but I thought that I might possibly get a copy of the rules from the Library and was disappointed. Therefore I am somewhat in a difficulty not knowing what the rules of recruitment, if any, are in this matter. If therefore any of my suggestions cover the rules already in force, I have given my excuse already. A notification was published in the Gazette of 11th July 1931 providing for direct recruitment of Reserve Sub-Registrars after consultation with the Madras Services Commission. I am not aware why the old practice of appointment by the head of the department was given up and the duty of recruitment intrusted to the Commission. I believe it was in accordance with the present policy that appointments in the patronage of the Government should be made through the Services Commission. We cannot quarrel with this modern practice. At the same time I think the principle of competitive examination also may be introduced. You know, Sir, what difficulty there was in introducing the principle of competitive examination in England. At first the principle was introduced for the Indian Civil Service; then it was found that it was working satisfactorily and producing good results. Gradually that principle was extended to all appointments. I have some experience of the administration of a small place not so large as India. There, years ago the

12th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

principle of competitive examination was introduced and I know personally that that principle is working well. I am glad that the principle has been introduced here with regard to appointments of clerks, but it should be extended gradually to cover all appointments. For the present, may I suggest that the principle may be immediately introduced in regard to the recruitment of Sub-Registrars? I do not know what instructions the Services Commission has received in regard to the selection to be made by them, but I trust that they would be instructed to recruit Sub-Registrars by holding a competitive examination. I quite realize that where personality is a very important factor competitive examination may not be the best method of recruitment. But in regard to Sub-Registrars I do not think personality is a factor of very great importance. If necessary, a *viva voce* examination might be held. In any case there is nothing fairer than a competitive examination. At the same time I quite realize that the claims of the large number of men in the department itself should not be overlooked. In all departments in which the competitive examination is introduced it is customary to provide opportunities for people already in the service. In the Postal department in England a certain percentage of appointments is reserved for direct recruitment, a certain percentage for promotion from the lower grades and so on. In certain other departments of which I have knowledge a certain percentage is reserved for direct recruitment and a certain percentage for promotion from the ranks of all Government servants. A third percentage is also reserved for appointment from the department concerned itself. In the case of Sub-Registrars, we may for instance adopt the following method. An examination may be held for all people not above the age of 25. In the case of persons already in Government service the age bar may be raised. Appointments should be made in accordance with the results of the examination, provided always a certain percentage of appointments is reserved for the clerks in the Registration department. I believe there is some rule regarding the percentage of people to be promoted from the cadre of clerks in the Registration department. I am not sure whether there is any fixed percentage. Some time ago—I think it was in 1926—a question was put in this Council as to what percentage of Registrar appointments was reserved for promotion from the lower grade registration clerks, but no definite reply was given. The adoption of the competitive examination system would do away with complaints that are often urged that particular communities and sections of communities are not properly represented in the department. I may say at once I do not believe very much in the communal principle. (An hon. Member: Very much?) I do not believe very much in the communal principle, because that also leads to hardship. Within the community there are several sections and complaints are made that all the sections of a community do not get their due share of the appointments allotted to that community. However, I do not wish to say more on this point just now. If in addition to the communal principle, the principle of competitive examination also is adopted, it will give a feeling of security and contentment to

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [12th March 1932

the people concerned. Within the boundaries of the communal principle, let us give effect to the principle of competitive examination and make it the basis as it were for appointments. Perhaps in course of time we may be able to abandon the principle of communal representation although it will be difficult to do so at present. Let us now combine the two principles and I believe that this will be to the good of Government and the Government servants."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Mr. President, I rise to give my hearty support to the motion which has been moved by the learned member from Malabar. He has rightly complained that the number of Mussalmans clerks in the Registration department is very few. Let me first read a few figures from the *Return of Officers under the Government of Madras* who held permanent appointments on the 1st April of each of the years 1924 to 1931. In the Office of the Inspector-General of Registration, in 1924 there were three Muhammadan Gazetted Officers and in 1931 there were only five, an increase of only two. In the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over during the same period of seven years the number increased from thirty-four to thirty-six only, a slight increase of two. In the case of non-gazetted officers drawing salaries ranging between Rs. 35 and Rs. 100 there was none in 1924 and only one in 1931. In the case of non-gazetted officers on less than Rs. 35 there was an increase from six to seven, here again an increase of only one. In the District Registration Establishments there is not even a single Mussalman gazetted officer in the whole Presidency. Even in the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over, there is no Mussalman. There has been an increase from 128 to 139 in the case of non-gazetted officers on Rs. 35 and upwards but below Rs. 100 and an increase from 183 to 196 in the case of non-gazetted officers on less than Rs. 35. In all these cases we find that there has not been any increase at all worth the name in the number of appointments held by the Mussalman community. This only shows that all these years the head of the Registration department has not taken care to see that there are a sufficient number of Mussalman officers in his department, to bring about communal equilibrium and redress inequalities. The case of Christians also is as bad as that of Muhammadans. Therefore I would urge upon the hon. Minister to set right these inequalities and not to give grounds for complaint to our Mussalman friends who are saying in season and out of season that ample statutory safeguards should be provided in the Constitution itself to protect their interests in the services and in the representative institutions of the country. We must banish all apprehensions in their minds that they would be treated indifferently by the majority community. I would therefore urge on the hon. Minister that he should not merely be just but even generous and give them all the appointments that may fall vacant hereafter for some time.

" Sir, in this connexion I should like to refer to certain views expressed in this Council with regard to the inadequacy of the representation of certain sections of the Hindu community in the services. The division of the Hindu community into Brahman and non-Brahman

12th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

is bad enough; but that it should be made worse by agitating that Setti Balijas should be adequately represented, that Kammas should be adequately represented, and that Reddis should be adequately represented and so on is sickening. It is, to say the least, disgusting that members of the Hindu community should come forward and ask for communal representation in the services for every minor section of that community. On behalf of my own community—the Mudaliyars—I should like to state on the floor of this House, for the information of my Friend the hon. Mr Ponnambala Tyagaraja Mudaliyar that my community does not at all want any such special protection or safeguard. We are prepared to sacrifice for the sake of our Kamma and Reddy brethren. Let all the appointments in the Registration department be given to Kammas and Reddis. In conclusion, I would once again request the gentleman in charge of the Registration Portfolio to see that Mussalmans and Christians are employed in that deparment in large numbers, so that any fear that may be lurking in their minds that their interests would suffer in any scheme of Self-Government, may be put an end to."

Swami A. S. Sahajananda addressed the House in Tamil as follows :—

"பத்திர பதிவு இலாகாவை சர்வீஸ் கமிஷனிடம் கொடுக்காமல் கனம் மந்திரியவர்களே வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். முன் மந்திரியாயிருந்த கனம் முத்தையா முதலியாரவர்கள் வகுப்புவாரியாக உத்தியோகங் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென துடங்கினார். அப்படி செய்வதால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கும் இடங்கிடைக்கும். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களென சுமார் நாறபது வகுப்பினரை சர்வீஸ் கமிஷன் சேர்த்துள்ளது. அது சரியன்று. சட்டசபை மான்யுல், லோக்கல் போர்டு ஆக்டில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களென யார் யாரைக்குறித்துள்ளதோ அவர்களையே தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களென கொண்டு அவர்களுக்கு இலாகாவில் படிப்புக்கேற்றவாறு உத்தியோகங்கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களிலும் பலர் படித்து வேலையில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்கு வேலைகள் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இன்றைய காலையில் பி.ஏ. ஜூனியரில் படித்தவர் ஒருவர் வேலையில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுவதாக தெரிவித்தார். ஆதலால் பத்திர பதிவு இலாகாவை கனம் மந்திரியவர்கள் தமதுகையில் வைத்துக்கொண்டு தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு உத்தியோகங்கள் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென மன மாறுதலடைந்து செய்யவேண்டும்".

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to speak on this cut motion in order to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister to the case of one Simhadri Venkatanarasimhamurti who is working in the jurisdiction of the District Registrar of Ganjam. There is reliable information that this gentleman is connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement and that he is editing a journal; he is preaching sedition and yet he is kept in that department and in that district for a number of years. Some members of the Viswabrahmana community approached me and asked me to represent to the hon. the Minister that they feel ashamed of this gentleman, that he is a shame to the community and they are ashamed of his activities and of the way in which he is behaving. I request the hon. the Minister to see at once that enquiries are made and if the allegations made against him are correct, to take necessary action against him . . ." 4-p.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"On a point of order, Sir. Are we concerned just now with the Civil Disobedience

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [12th March 1932

Movement, with the behaviour of persons in connexion with that movement? If it is a question of appointments, I can understand the relevancy."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think the hon. Member was speaking about a particular gentleman of a particular community in service. He was speaking of the activities of that gentleman, that had been brought to his notice. But I do not think the hon. Member will be in order to refer to a particular person and attack him when he is not here to defend himself."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, I bow to your ruling. My object has been achieved. I have already said what I had to say. I think the hon. Minister will bear in mind my remarks; I will not any more allude to this matter.

" In passing, may I make one observation and it is this; so far as recruitment is concerned, not only persons who are desirable from the point of view of competitive examinations, but also persons of good status, position, and character should be recruited. Later on, even when persons have to be promoted, may I remind the hon. the Minister to issue instructions to the persons concerned, to encourage persons who are not merely efficient in disposal of work, in registering a number of documents but who have good character, influence and personality? If the hon. Member keeps in view my observations, the object, which I have in view, will be gained."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, the main point in the remarks of the very many hon. Members is with regard to appointments in this department and the desire of the different communities to have their due share of these appointments. My own desire is that every community—especially backward communities— should have its own share. But the powers of the heads of the departments with regard to appointments are hemmed in by the Public Services Commission. That Commission recommends persons for initial recruitment, on communal basis, to the various heads of departments who confine their appointments to these persons. My hon. Friend, Mr Sriramulu, observed that his community does not have any representation in the Government service. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, pointed out, the Hindu community is divided into two main communities, the Brahmans and non-Brahmans. If every community is further divided into various sections, it may land us in greater difficulties. I shall communicate the speeches of hon. Members to the head of the department so that due consideration may be given to the claims of the various communities—especially the backward communities—if candidates of those communities are available and if they are duly qualified. Mr. Arasu also pointed out that Muhammadans are unrepresented in the department. I shall give the House the following figures that I have. There are 26 District Registrars and out of these 26, 5 are Muhammadans. In the selection grade there are 31 officers; one of them is a Muhammadan. In the upper grade Sub-Registrars, there are 83: out of these, there is one Muhammadan. As soon as the Government pass orders with regard

12th March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

to promotions from the lower grade to the upper grade, the proportion of Muhammadans will be greater in the latter grade. There are 507 officers in the lower grade, of whom 37 are Muhammadans. There are 77 reserve Sub-Registrars, of whom 11 are Muhammadans. Out of the total number of 2,189 clerks, there are 140 Muhammadans. As I said last year at the time of the Budget discussion, it is not possible all of a sudden to rectify communal inequalities. The Government Order regarding communal rotation was passed with a view to rectify these communal inequalities, and it will take some time. In the course of ten years or so, different communities will be represented in the services in due proportion.

" The hon. Member Mr. Pocker observed that there was unnecessary delay with regard to promotions from the lower grade to the upper grade. It is true that promotions from the lower grade to the upper grade have been held up from the year 1927 onwards. There was some difficulty in deciding how promotions should be made in these cases and what principles should apply. After great deal of thought and deliberation, the Government have come to certain conclusions and in the course of a fortnight, orders will be passed. With reference to the question of giving retrospective effect to these promotions in the sense that back pay will have to be given, I am afraid, I cannot make any promise at all. It is not possible for the Government to give retrospective effect to these promotions and to give back pay which will run to thousands. The Government will not be able to find the money required in these days of financial stringency.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, elaborated to us the virtues of competitive examination. I agree with him in theory. But when there is the claim of each community to get its due proportion of representation in the public services, it is not possible to apply the principle of competitive examination. If the different communities give up their claims and agree to the principle of selection by competitive examination, the Government will consider the question. But inasmuch as the different communities insist that their claims should be recognized, the principle of selection by competitive examination cannot be accepted. Though I say that the principle of selection by competitive examination cannot be accepted, in practice the principle underlying competitive examination is being given effect to by the Madras Services Commission at the time of selecting candidates. As far as the clerks are concerned, they are selected by the Services Commission as a result of examinations held by that body. In other cases, though written examinations are not held, selections are made after *viva voce* examination. Till the communities agree to the principle of competitive examination, this modified form of competitive examination alone can be followed.

" Then my hon. Friend went on to say that a certain percentage of the posts of Sub-Registrars should be reserved for direct recruitment, that a certain percentage should be reserved for people of the other

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [12th March 1932

departments, and that a certain percentage should be reserved for promotion from the lower grades. As far as the recruitment for the posts of reserve Sub-Registrars are concerned, they are mainly recruited directly. Deserving clerks of the department have been promoted. The Inspector-General of Registration has recently gone to the extent of reserving 25 per cent of the vacancies for promotion from the grade of clerks to the grade of Sub-Registrars. I think that that percentage is enougb. If we still increase that percentage I do not think it will be conducive to the efficiency of the department. No doubt the Retrenchment Committee has recommended that 50 per cent of the appointments should be made by promotion of clerks to the grade of Sub-Registrars. The matter is still under the consideration of the Government. I am afraid it is not possible or even advisable to recruit men to this department from other departments.

45 "Sir, Swami Sahajananda complained that members of his com-
m. munity have not got adequate representation in the services, and he even went to the extent of saying that the Minister should take upon himself the duty of making such appointments. I am afraid it is too tall an order. It is only on the recommendation of this House that the Madras Services Commission was appointed, and all appointments from the various heads of departments were transferred to the Commission. Unless the Act of this House is amended, it is not possible for Ministers or even heads of departments to take up that duty. But I may say this, that that community has not suffered on this account. As a matter of fact, in recent years, the hon. Member's community people have been recruited to some of the grades in this department. I may say, for his information, that among the Registrars, there is a member of the depressed classes. Among the Sub-Registrars, there are two members of that community and there are 13 clerks in the department. Only recently, when the Government were considering the question of promotion from the lower to the upper grade, two vacancies which should have gone to the members of the depressed class community could not be filled up because no candidates were available at that time. I asked the head of the department to find out whether there were any members of the depressed classes community who were fit for promotion. I am glad to say that two members of the community are now available, and when the time comes for filling up vacancies next time, their case would be considered, and there is every possibility of their being promoted.

"There is only one other point, Sir, raised by Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar to be dealt with, that is, about some clerk in the department who is carrying on propaganda against the Government. The Inspector-General will be informed of this and will be asked to make enquiries. If the facts are as alleged on the floor of this House, I shall ask the head of the department to take necessary action."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"Sir, may I make a small remark?"

* The hon. the President:—"Any personal explanation?"

12th March 1932]

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—" I cannot say it is a personal explanation, but I think a small error has been made by the hon. the Minister. I want to correct it."

* The hon. the President:—" Yes."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—" The hon. the Minister said that it was not possible to work the communal principle and the competitive examination principle together. I wish to point out that these two principles are worked together in regard to the clerical services examination, I therefore think that if it is possible to work these two principles together in connexion with the other departments, it must be equally possible in the Registration department also."

* The hon. the President:—" I shall now put the Demand to the vote of the House. The question is—

> '*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 26,80,400 *under Demand V—Registration—Transferred* '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VI—IRRIGATION (EXCLUDING CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT)—RESERVED.

* The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> '*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 82,64,600 *under Demand VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved* '."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, I beg to move—

> '*That the Demand under Irrigation be reduced by a sum of Rs.* 100 *with a view to discuss the Irrigation Policy of Government.*'

" Sir, I am aware that this year the Government is faced with financial stringency, and is therefore not in a position to allot funds as usual for the various irrigation systems in this Presidency. But, Sir, there are some special circumstances which force us to view the Budget provisions with a certain amount of dissatisfaction. I had occasion, Sir, in another connexion, to refer to what are called promises made by the Government in connexion with the enforcement of the new resettlement rates, promises made that they would provide for improvements to irrigation and drainage in the Godavari and Kistna deltas. But looking at the Budget, we find that Government have not kept up to their promises. I would argue that in a case where you are enforcing resettlement rates and where as a consequence, you are raising

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [12th March 1932

money from these very delta systems, the people under which have been objecting to the enforcement of the rates and have been pleading all along against them on the score of depression in prices, and of the resultant misery, and that they are not in a position to pay the rates and where you have given definite promises that you will do the needful in the way of applying remedies for removing the difficulties of irrigation and drainage, one has necessarily to view with displeasure the Government's failure in carrying out their promises to apply remedial measures, to rectify the defects in irrigation, etc. In the case of the Godavari delta system, Sir, a reference to the Budget provisions will show that the main work the Government are budgeting for is 'lifting arrangements' for the Godavari Anicut shutters. So far so good. They are also providing for bringing under cultivation, as I have remarked in another connexion, the low level *para* lands near the sea-coast in the delta. This, Sir, can hardly be considered as a measure of help to people who have been complaining about insufficiency of water for irrigation and of difficulties in drainage. The only work for improvement to the drainage that Government are contemplating is a small work which might cost about Rs. 3,000 for doing some work for the Yenamaduru drain. The work has already been done, and I do not know what work is still going to be done out of this paltry sum of Rs. 3,000. That is the actual provision made for the improvement of drainage, although the Government have all along been talking tall about applying the necessary remedial measures for drainage in the Godavari delta. The measures that the ryots have been asking for are something very different from those for which this paltry sum of Rs. 3,000 is provided—viz., the Yenamaduru drain, a work which has already been completed.

"Then, Sir, coming to the Cauvery delta system, I referred the other day to the failure of the Government so far to tackle the question of upland drainage that enters the Vennar system. The Government have got behind them the accumulated experience of years. The matter has been under consideration for years and years, even from before the time of the settlement of 1892. I pointed out, Sir, in another connexion, that the Government have really done very little in the way of finding out a solution to this most serious problem of disposal of upland drainage that enters into the Vennar. It is true that soon after the settlement of 1892 one of the senior officers of the department, Colonel Smart, a very much respected officer, was placed on special duty to go into the whole question; but the result of the investigation was merely to substitute regulators in the places of the various anicuts in the Vennar system and possibly also in the Cauvery system. So far so good. My friend, the hon. the Revenue Member, said that in a series of years the Government carried out improvements which average to about a lakh of rupees every year. If I remember aright, I think Government get every year from the Cauvery delta system alone a revenue of somewhere over Rs. 40 lakhs. And to spend Rs. 1 lakh on improvements to drainage in a delta system like that—a delta system that owes its inception and development not so much to the British

12th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

Government but to the ancient Hindu Rajas, a system which has been taken over by the British Government and which for years acted simply as a gold mine from which Government without much expenditure has been getting lakhs and lakhs of rupees—to spend in such a system an amount of Rs. 1 lakh for improvements in drainage is not doing very much indeed. But, Sir, to come back to the point; the main problem of the disposal of upland drainage in the Vennar system remains unsolved. Government appointed a Committee to go into the whole question of irrigation in the Cauvery delta; the Committee sent in its recommendations and many of its recommendations—the least costly of them—have been accepted and a good many of them have been carried out. But when it came to the crucial point of the most expensive of the proposals, that is, the proposals concerning the upland drainage that enters the Vennar between this Grand Anicut and Tanjore, the Government have fought shy of the issue. Sir, if I am to take the recent communiqué that was published in the papers as an indication of what the Government intend to do, it seems to me that Government intend to do nothing at all. That communiqué states that the Government are going to divert the upland drainage that enters above the Grand Anicut into the Cauvery. As a matter of fact, it was already decided upon. It is not a recent matter. That is one of the points already accepted by the Government; but the main difficulty remains. The drainage that enters Vennar between the Grand Anicut right up to the head of the Pamaniyar—what are the Government going to do with it? The Government Communiqué that I referred to states that they are going to put up a high level escape on the left bank of the Pamaniyar somewhere. Sir, it seems to me that the proposal is thoroughly absurd without the drainage division recommended by the Cauvery Committee. I do not understand it, because the effects of such a proposal would simply be disastrous. At present, what happens is that the water accumulates; it breaches both the banks in a number of places and it escapes. Government are going to provide not a low level escape but a high level escape somewhere. What does it mean? Before the water passes on to the Pamaniyar, it will have to go over many miles of flat country. And what is going to happen? I do not think Government will be allowed to do it; as I said the other day, the ryots will strongly object to it. I think, Sir, the Government must find some other remedy. I would seriously ask the Government to try to examine the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee at once. Although I am aware that their proposals were costly, I think Government have no right to say that they are prohibitive in cost and that they cannot consider those proposals, because, as I said, you have been receiving year after year not 40 lakhs but much more and that after resettlement the amount has gone up. On the whole when compared with the revenue that you have been getting from the Tanjore delta your expenditure is inconsiderable. I think, Sir, that in coming to a conclusion as to whether a particular work is prohibitive or not, Government should certainly consider the amount of revenue that they have been deriving from these areas and

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [12th March 1932

the hardships the people have been suffering from and against which they have been complaining and for which the Government have been repeatedly promising to provide remedies . . . "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member may continue his speech on Monday."

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. on Monday the 14th instant.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1011 asked by Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1932, page 109 supra.]

Press Communiqué of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 14, *dated Fort St. George, the 22nd February* 1932.

The Government have received representation in regard to the action of the Subdivisional Magistrate, Tellicherry, Malabar district, in having ordered the removal of the thali of Mrs. Prabhu, together with her other jewels in realization of a fine imposed upon her in C.C. No. 23 of 1932 for a criminal offence. Representations have also been received in regard to certain remarks alleged to have been made by the Subdivisional Magistrate during the course of Mrs. Prabhu's trial.

On receiving these representations the Government directed an enquiry by the District Magistrate of Malabar and have now received his report.

The Subdivisional Magistrate, under a misapprehension that all the jewelry on the person of anyone sentenced to imprisonment and fine should be seized for the realization of the fine ordered the seizure of the thali belonging to Mrs. Prabhu along with other jewelry at the conclusion of her trial. Though the seizure of a thali is not expressly prohibited by the Code of Criminal Procedure or by the Criminal Rules of Practice, the Government consider that the action of the Subdivisional Magistrate was a serious error of judgment, which he has himself realized and for which he has expressed sincere regret. As soon as the matter came to the knowledge of the District Magistrate, he very properly ordered that the thali should be returned without awaiting the instructions of the Government. The Government are considering the advisability of bringing the Rules of Criminal Practice into line with the Code of Civil Procedure, the Police Standing Orders and the Jail Department Rules, so as to prevent all possibility of a recurrence of so regrettable a mistake.

As regards the remarks made by the Subdivisional Magistrate in the course of the trial, the Government are satisfied from a perusal of the statements of persons present in Court at the time which have been recorded by the District Magistrate, that no reference was made to the molestation of women while in the custody of the police. What happened was that the Subdivisional Magistrate addressed some observations at the conclusion of the trial to the accused persons stressing the dangers and foolishness of civil disobedience. The purport of these observations was that the alternative to the maintenance of law and order was a state

[12th March 1932

of anarchy in which women would be in special danger of outrage and murder. These remarks were misunderstood to imply some kind of threat of molestation by the police which was not in any way the intention of the Magistrate, and was not the impression made on the minds of persons present in Court who have been examined by the District Magistrate.

G. T. H. BRACKEN,
Chief Secretary.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1015 asked by Capt. W. E. Winter at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 12th March 1932, page 116 supra.]

Designation.	Salary and allowance.	Service.	Qualifications.
1. Farm Manager.	Rs. 115 + * O.C.A. Rs. 18¾.	6 years ..	B.Sc. Ag.
Do.	Rs. 120 + O.C.A. Rs. 18¾.	10 years and 8 months.	S.S.L.C.; L. Ag.
Storekeeper and Clerk.	Rs. 47 + O.C.A. Rs. 8¾ ..	9 years and 7 months.	S.S.L.C.

N.B.—The above represent details as they stood on 31st October 1931.

* O.C.A. = Other compensatory allowance.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 14th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur, R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Jones, I.C.S., Mr. C. E.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Kumararaja of Venkatagiri, The
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahbooh Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampndi, The
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Excise

Appointment of a Muslim as an Assistant Commissioner of Excise.

* 1018 *Q.*—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether there is any proposal at present before the Government to appoint a Muslim as one of the Assistant Commissioners of Excise by virtue of the operation of the communal Government Order ?

A.—No. Appointments of Assistant Commissioner of Excise are made by promotion from the grade of Inspectors, and the rule of communal rotation does not apply to such promotions.

Representation of Muslims on the establishment of the office of the Commissioner of Excise, Madras.

* 1019 *Q.*—MAHBOOB ALI BAIG SAHIB Bahadur : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) the ratio of Muslims to other clerks in the upper division in the Excise Commissioner's Office at present, i.e., 29th February 1932;

(*b*) whether there is any qualified Muslim clerk in the lower division, whose claims have been overlooked several times when vacancies occurred in the upper division;

(*c*) whether there are any graduate Muslim clerks in the said office; if so, the nature of the work entrusted to them; and

(*d*) whether the communal Government Order has been given effect to in that office; if so, what the results are as far as Muslim representation is concerned ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have called for a report.

Agriculture

Rice exported from and imported into the province during the last ten years.

* 1020 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of rice exported from this province during each of the last ten years and the places to which the bulk of this rice has gone; and

(*b*) the quantity of rice imported into this province during each of the last ten years and the principal places from which it has come?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Two statements[a] furnishing the required information are appended.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 248 infra.

14th March 1932]

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know, Sir, whether Japanese rice is being imported into this province? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I do not think there is any rice imported from Japan into this province."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether the fall in the price of paddy is due to the large quantity of rice being imported into this Presidency? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I should not be surprised if it is so, on account of the import of rice from foreign countries."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, whether Government have at any time inquired why during the last 10 years there has been such a large rise in the quantity of rice exported from this Presidency ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" No enquiry has been made so far."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" I wish to know from the hon. the Minister how the balance of trade works in favour of our province, considering the fact that there has been a large amount of rice exported from this province to Malaya and Ceylon and that a larger tonnage of imports of rice from Bengal and Burma into our province ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I have no figures."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Will the hon. Minister secure the figures and supply the information, Sir ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the fact that under the Mettur Irrigation Scheme a very much larger extent will come under cultivation, may I know whether Government will be pleased to address the Government of India to restrict the import of rice or to reduce the quantity imported ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Burma is the biggest importer of rice into India to-day. If probably Burma becomes a separate province, it may be possible to us to do so ; otherwise I do not think it is possible."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" In reply to a previous question the hon. Minister replied that rice is being imported from foreign countries into Madras ; may I know from the hon. Minister which are the foreign countries that he means ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Places like Ceylon, Straits Settlements, Federated Malay States, Java, Siam and Indo-China, etc."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Minister, in view of the fact that on account of the financial depression there is not the same quantity of rice going out of India to foreign countries as before, how he will explain the fact that the imports in 1930-31 have reached the high figure on 351,000 tons ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" It is a matter of opinion."

[14th March 1932

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know from the hon. Minister whether Government will consider the question of prohibiting the import of rice from Burma and other foreign countries ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" No, Sir. Government have not considered the question."

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know, Sir, whether the hon. the Second Minister is aware of the fact that, whereas the export of rice out of this Presidency has remained steady during the last 3 or 4 years, the import has increased considerably as compared with 1929–30 and 1930–31 ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Cheaper rice is being imported into this Province and hence the reason for importing a large quantity."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know, Sir, what happens to this large quantity of imported rice ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" It is being consumed."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" In view of the fact that large quantities of rice are being imported into our Province, which is responsible for the fall in price, may I ask the hon. Minister whether at present any import duty is levied on such rice ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" I should not think so."

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—" May I know, Sir, whether in view of the fall in the price of rice, the Government will consider the desirability of prohibiting imports from outside countries ? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" The matter will be considered."

Public Service

Age-limit for the members of the depressed classes for entry into Government service.

* 1021 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Rajagopala Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any decision has been arrived at with regard to the raising of the age-limit of the depressed classes from 25 to 30 years for entry into Government service;

(*b*) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to expedite the same; and

(*c*) why the age-limit of depressed classes candidates for appointment as Assistant Inspector of Excise has been restricted to 25 years (*Fort St. George Gazette*, Part I-B, dated 9th February 1932) instead of 27 years as was done in the case of candidates for clerical posts (*Fort St. George Gazette*, Part I-B, dated 12th January 1932)?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes. Government have decided to raise the limit—

(*a*) to 27 in the case of the Ministerial Service and

(*b*) to 26 in the case of services for which technical qualifications have been prescribed.

(c) No difficulty was experienced by the Madras Services Commission in getting a sufficient number of candidates of the depressed classes for this service and there was therefore no necessity to raise the age-limit in this case.

Administration of Justice

Alleged want of courtesy on the part of the present District Munsif of Tindivanam.

* 1022 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the present District Munsif of Tindivanam is treating the members of the bar and the clients with scant courtesy and that there have been frequent protests by the members against the conduct of the District Munsif; and

(b) what steps do the Government or the High Court propose to take to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in the said court?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government have no information; the allegations in the question will be forwarded to the hon. the Judges of the High Court.

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Irrigation

Reduction of the rate of assessment for lands affected by defective drainage in Nadugudi, Nannilam taluk.

1023 *Q.*—Mr. K. S. SIVASUBRAHMANYA AYYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government in their Ms. No. 1132, dated 30th April 1900, and the Board of Revenue in its Ms. No. 2350, dated 14th May 1900, have agreed to collect a reduced rate of assessment for lands affected by defective drainage in Nadugudi, 120 Thattathimoolai, Nannilam taluk, Tanjore district, till the defects are remedied;

(b) whether the Government have taken any steps to remedy the said defects;

(c) if not, why the reduced rate in assessment was increased in 1907;

(d) what action the Government took on the petitions from the ryots to the authorities ever since 1907;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Tanjore in his endorsement D. Dis. No. 43/R of 1914, dated 6th January 1914, accepted to remedy the same;

(f) the special reasons, if any, for not reducing soil classification on account of drainage defects in Nadugudi village at the last resettlement;

(g) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Tanjore in his D. Dis. No. 10051–31, dated 10th September 1931 and D. Dis. No. 18432–29-A, dated 16th June 1931, has dropped the latest of the Public Works Department's proposals on the ground of financial stringency; and

(h) whether it is a fact that the erection of regulators at Puttar Valappar head and controlling supply in Valappar to suit the convenience of the draining of Nadugudi lands was found impracticable by recent experience?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) In 1907, it was reported to the Government that the drainage of the lands was being satisfactorily discharged into the Valappar and that the lands were better off than the adjoining lands as a result of more systematic regulation of water at Valappar and other head works, made possible by the improvements to the Uppedu Anicut. The concession was accordingly withdrawn in 1907.

(d) A statement[a] of action taken is attached.

(e) No. The Collector merely informed the petitioners that the Executive Engineer was then engaged in putting up plans for the improvement of drainage facilities.

(f) For the reasons given in paragraphs 5 and 7 of G.O. (No. 1537, Revenue, dated 28th May 1932, the Government considered that a reclassification of soils in the Tanjore district was impracticable and unnecessary. There are no special reasons applicable to the Nadugudi village.

(g) In his letter No. 10051, dated 10th September 1931, the Collector stated that it was desirable to watch the effect of the improvements made to the Sengalipuram drainage for one or two seasons before making any attempt to improve the drainage in the lower reaches, that the scheme proposed by the ryots of Nadugudi was not remunerative and that even if it could be sanctioned, it could not be taken up during the period of financial stringency.

In his letter No. 18433, dated 16th June 1931, the Collector stated that the ryots did not want the improvements to the sluice which were suggested by the Executive Engineer and were not prepared to contribute to the alternative scheme of taking the channel directly eastwards, the cost of which was very high. The schemes were therefore dropped.

(h) The Government have not the information. A report has been called for.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33—*cont.*

DEMAND VI—IRRIGATION (EXCLUDING CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT) —*RESERVED*—*cont.*

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The discussion on Demand VI will be resumed. Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar will continue his speech on his cut motion. "

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 248–249 infra.

14th March 1932]

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Sir, the other day when the House rose, I was referring to the question of the disposal of the upland drainage in the Tanjore delta. My hon. Friend in reply to similar remarks that I made on the general discussion of the Budget stated that the Government have already carried out some works. The works that have already been carried out were those that formed part of the recommendations of Col. Smart who was placed on special duty in the year 1896. But, what I wish to point out is that the proposals of Col. Smart are very much out of date and I would draw the special attention of Government to the fact that several of the proposals have not been worked out and that several of them, are, in the light of later experience, incorrect. For instance, Sir, in dealing with the question of the upland drainage, Col. Smart provided for a discharge corresponding to a run-off of 2 inches in 24 hours and this figure was allowed not merely for inter-delta drainage, but also for the upland drainage. Sir, I think, the absurdity of this provision will be manifest if I mention the fact that the uplands of the Tanjore delta from which the bulk of the drainage comes are subject to cyclonic rainfall. During a cyclone, we might get anything like 20 inches of rain in 24 hours and to provide for a run-off of 2 inches in 24 hours is manifestly absurd. But, of course, the proposals of Col. Smart were only tentative. Not only are the provisions made by him, totally inadequate, but in addition to that fact, several of his proposals have been dropped and have now become impracticable. For instance, Col. Smart contemplated that a discharge of about 6,500 cusecs would be taken away by the Vadavar-Pattukottai scheme, but Government have abandoned that. Also Col. Smart contemplated that on account of the shorter Kottur-Kuduvavar scheme a further discharge of 2,600 cusecs will be taken over. That too has gone. He also contemplated that in a flood all the irrigation sluices will be kept open. That is obviously impossible. In fact the experience of any irrigation officer in flood disposal in Tanjore delta will justify my statement, that in a flood, it is practically impossible to open the sluices. To begin with, the regulation of flood water is not in the hands of the Public Works Department and the ryot will not allow the sluices to be opened. So that, in the light of these remarks and in view of the fact that some of Col. Smart's proposals are impracticable and others have been dropped as unsuitable, what do Government propose to do?

" Sir, I was referring to the recent Communiqué of the Government with reference to this question. They say that the proposals sent up by the Cauvery Delta Committee concerning the disposal of the upland drainage were found to be prohibitive. I was wondering the other day as to what they meant by the term ' prohibitive ', when as a matter of fact they have been deriving large amounts by way of revenue from the Cauvery delta. The annual revenue to Government from the Cauvery delta amounts to something like 47 lakhs a year and the proposals for the disposal of the upland drainage sent up by the Cauvery Committee came to about 20 lakhs, that is for the disposal of the drainage entering between the Grand Anicut and Tanjore. Now, Sir, this 20 lakhs of

capital expenditure for the remedying of a grievance of such a magnitude, a grievance that has led to the impoverishment of the people owing to recurring flood damage, is nothing when compared with the revenue derived from the delta. The loss is not merely to the people but to the Government as well. In view of the fact that practically the banks of most of the rivers have been torn to pieces in every recurring flood and in view of the facts mentioned above, the decision that the cost of the disposal of the upland drainage is prohibitive, seems to me to be certainly heartless, and may I also add that it seems to be absurd. It is the duty of the Government, in view of the large revenues that they derive from the delta and in view of the admittedly great damage that has been done to the delta, to find a solution. It is no use Government coming and telling us that the thing is prohibitive in cost; it is for them to find a solution and the sooner they do so the better for their reputation and for the well-being of the people.

" I would also add, Sir, that as far as I can make out, not only from the Communiqué, but from the provision made in the Budget, Government are proposing to do nothing for the serious drainage difficulties in the Tiruturaipundi taluk. I would not go into the details, because it may not interest the Council, if I go on narrating the technical details of the proposals. The difficulties are admitted, the damage to the people is admitted and the sooner Government do something the better for everybody concerned. In this connexion may I suggest that, as the opinions of Government in this matter are varying with every change in the holder of the office of Chief Engineer for Irrigation, that this question of the disposal of the upland drainage in the Tanjore delta as well as similar questions arising in the Godavari and Kistna deltas may be submitted to the Government of India for decision by a Committee of the Government of India which consists of the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India as Chairman and the Chief Engineers of the Provinces as Members.

5 " The Government have before now availed themselves of the services of the Committee; and in a matter of this magnitude, may I tell Government that they will do well to consult this Committee? It seems that the Government are not always of one mind altogether. At one time they have one opinion and at another they hold a different opinion with a change in the personnel of the Chief Engineer. The latest decision seems to be disastrous; and I warn the Government that they will be landed in Courts of Law.

" I will ask a few questions of my hon. Friend the Revenue Member. I believe, Sir, that in view of the retrenchment some of the Tank Restoration Divisions have been abolished leaving a small establishment consisting of a few officers. I shall ask the hon. gentleman what progress has been made in the completion of Tank Restoration Scheme Works. Have the investigations been completed, if not, when do they hope to complete them? It is a matter which has been hanging on for a number of years and we had hoped that the whole matter might have been settled and finished long ago; but the

14th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

decision of the Government seems to mean that this thing which has been hanging on for the past so many years is to hang on for many years more.

" I should like to know what has happened to the scheme of improvements to the Buckingham Canal. They were carrying on some improvements; but I guess, I am not speaking on any specific information, that it has all been a failure. I believe, Sir, to-day the Buckingham Canal, especially the Southern Canal, is in as unsatisfactory a condition as it ever was, although they have increased the licence fees for boats and so forth. The canal, in my opinion, remains as inefficient as before.

" Sir, there has been correspondence as regards the Red Hills tank between the Government and the Corporation of Madras. I am not referring to the demands of the Corporation; but I wish only to point out that the present orders about the supply of water for irrigation are most unsatisfactory because the ryots do not know when the supply would be cut off. The Government have taken powers by means of rules to cut off the supply of water for irrigation purposes from the Red Hills at any time they consider proper with reference to the requirements of water-supply for the City of Madras. This is a very unsatisfactory arrangement. The ryots are allowed to start cultivation and after a month or two afterwards, they are told that there is no more water to give. The sluices are shut off and the ryots have got to manage for themselves. This does not often result in remissions for the simple reason that the remission rules are wonderfully ungenerous and they effectively safeguard the revenues of the State. What happens is this. The water-supply is cut off; but at the same time the crops do not dry up altogether. It may be due to the hardihood of the paddy crops or there is a little rain and the ryots are only able to have a half or a quarter crop. Such a case no doubt safeguards the Government's revenues and obviates the necessity for any remissions; but all the same the ryots are put to loss. I think, Sir, it is the duty of the Government to come to the relief of the ryots by improving the supply of water to the Red Hills tank so that they may be in a position to give enough water both for purposes of irrigation and for consumption in the City. I need not here enter into the possible schemes that might be thought fit for remedying the difficulty. This is not the place for it.

" Sir, as regards the Thoppayapalayam Project, we have the same old story. The scheme was started by one Chief Engineer, and then stopped by a second gentleman and revived once more by a third officer and so on. The scheme was sanctioned many year ago; part of the work was done. With a change in the personnel the work stopped; then again it was resumed and was going on for some time and now it has been stopped. In the Budget, there is no provision for this scheme. I think it does not add to the reputation of the Government; it does not enhance the prestige of the Government, it seems to have no mind of its own. Hence, I suggest, Sir, that a reference should be made to the Consultative Committee of the Government of India in this case also.

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [14th March 1932

" Sir, let me now turn to the Tungabhadra Project. Questions have been frequently raised in this Council about this project. There is no provision in the Budget for investigation or any work of any kind in connexion with this scheme. Members of this House have frequently raised the question of the completion of the investigation of this scheme at as early a date as possible. We have been told that the matter was under discussion with the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad. It is no consolation to us to see all these delays. Members of this House have frequently pointed out the urgency for Government to come to some definite conclusion on this project and for putting the work in hand. It is not necessary, Sir, to repeat that this scheme was started many years ago and not till it had gone through various vicissitudes like most projects under Public Works Department, that estimates were prepared. And now comes the first stage of what seems to be an indefinite delay. The project is one that is urgently needed and if it is carried out, it will be better for the well-being of those people who have been frequently subjected to the scourge of famine. The people of the Ceded districts have suffered untold loss in the shape of cattle mortality, failure of crops and in the earlier famines, loss of human lives was enormous. Take the case of the famine of 1877, when about a million people died in the Ceded districts alone. Sir, it is the duty of the Government to wipe out this blot on their administration. It is easy to come to the relief of these people by providing water which admittedly will enable these people to get over their miseries and live a happy and contented life. Will Government come to their relief; if so, when? The prospects do not seem to be very promising.

" Lastly, let me make one or two brief remarks about retrenchment. The Government itself has laid down definite orders as to the procedure to be followed in dispensing with the services of its subordinate establishment. Sir, how have the instructions contained in the Government Order been observed? I consider, Sir, that they have been cast to the winds. The Government Order has laid down specifically that the men to be dispensed with first are those who are temporary and among such men the juniormost will be selected first. There is no question of efficiency; but in actual practice—I am referring to the case of 23 men whose services have been dispensed with—various considerations seem to have come in. It is said that some of these men have put in considerable service in the department, in some cases amounting to 10 or 12 years and a few have put in four or five years' service, and these have been selected for disbandment and their services have been dispensed with, because their records were not satisfactory. I say, Sir, the question of efficiency or inefficiency ought not to arise in connexion with this question of retrenchment; on the other hand, the Government themselves have, if I am right, indicated their intention and said that the question of efficiency or inefficiency should not arise in connexion with retrenchment. I hope, Sir, that the hon. gentlemen will enquire into the matter and give satisfaction, so that the men dispensed with may receive justice and the public may feel that at least the orders of Government are carried out in practice by its subordinates."

14th March 1932]

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro:—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish I had the personal experience and expert knowledge of the previous speaker to be able to enter into a technical discussion of the various projects and I am unable to make suggestions that a Committee of the Government of India or some other organization may be brought into operation so that all these matters may be considered more effectively than they are at present. (Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: The Committee exists.) Sir, it would have been a greater advantage to me sitting at this end if the hon. Member had spoken a little louder and I had the advantage of hearing an interesting and perhaps a very enlightening statement that he was making, and therefore I have to be content on this occasion to speak only from the point of view of an agriculturist and cultivator and tax-payer.

" Sir, the Madras Government have been very generous in the matter of treating the agriculturists. They are generous in making profuse promises for investigation of schemes, both productive and protective, so that the agriculturists may have redemption from famine and failure of crops. Sir, the policy is carried at a great discount. The irrigation policy of the Madras Government has been always to show great sympathy to the ryots promising to do what they can for them. But in practice, the difficulty arises with finances and experts. If a scheme is to be inaugurated in any district or in any place, a division or subdivision is formed immediately and officers and the required staff are immediately appointed. But the result of the investigation is that the scheme is not practical because it would not yield 6 per cent revenue. That has been the practical 11-
policy of the Government. To-day there is very little done in the a.m.
Godavari and Kistna delta areas, and in the Ganjam district the people are clamouring for the improvement of the minor river system and the people are agitating for a thorough investigation of the various schemes that have been proposed for the last 20 years. When they approach the Government, they say, ' Yes, the time has not come for them; all these schemes have to be investigated first, and then only they can be proceeded with. ' Now, Sir, this is the practical help that Government give to the ryots in reply to the petitions from the ryots, and this is the way in which the Irrigation Department alleviates the sufferings of the people. In the matter of protective works, how do the Government treat them? The Irrigation Department and those who have to examine the several schemes consider it their duty always to pronounce the verdict that 6 per cent is not the revenue that could be obtained from such projects. Thus the whole scheme consequently falls to the ground. Now what is the protective system and what are the purposes for which it is intended? In areas where the ryots generally suffer from failure of rain this system is intended to prevent damage. But, as a matter of fact, whenever a project is brought forward, it is brushed aside on the ground that it will not be remunerative. We had generous Members of Government in charge of Irrigation, Engineers who had always a kind heart towards the ryots, with a longing to do good to the people in all possible

[Sir A. P. Patro] [14th March 1932

ways, and they have devised the Rushikulya and the Nagavalli systems. Though it is several years since they were first suggested nothing has been done till now to make them *fait accompli*. They have always been kept in the background. That is because the Chief Engineer or the Secretary of the Department dealing with that generally has no experience of the district of Ganjam and so they are completely in the dark as to the sufferings of the ryots there. This is so not only in this matter but also in other matters as in revenue matters, because most of the Collectors who are in the Government have no experience of the Ganjam district. To illustrate my point that my district has been treated with scant courtesy, I shall refer to one point only; a few years ago Government have spent only about 44 lakhs in connexion with protective works, and that in two taluks only of the whole district. Now what the people really want is that Government should adopt preventive measures to prevent the crops of the ryots withering due to want of water. By spending 44 lakhs for the two divisions nobody is benefited. Now the Minor Rivers System in my district is comprised of the Vamsdhara and the Nagavalli rivers. They supply water to three channels, and it generally happens the mouth of these is silted up. When the ryots complain to the Executive Engineer, he coolly advises them to carry on *korambu*; on this Rs. 4,000 is expended. A month later the whole *korambu* is destroyed by floods and thus the whole sum is lost. Year after year this thing goes on and Government do not do anything to put up a strong anicut across Langalya. The ryots benefited by this are willing to pay even Rs. 2 per acre more and in spite of their repeated representations Government have not done anything to put up an anicut there or prevent silting up of the mouths.

"Now, Sir, the hardships of the people are intolerable. You want the people to pay the assessment regularly. If they do not pay, you issue warrants, and as a result of them several ryots have to sell their lands. Nevertheless this is the policy adopted by the district authorities without giving water. You do not move your little finger to alleviate the sufferings of the people; and yet you want the people to sympathise with you, you want them to co-operate with you in all your activities. How can you expect them to do so unless they are able to feel that there is a Government who is protecting them in times of distress, and that there is a Government to look after their interests and to remove all their difficulties? In the face of the several hardships that I have enumerated and which they have to undergo year in and year out, how can you expect them to sympathise with you? After all the ryot does not care who is his master, who is his Minister or who is his Governor. All that he cares for is his daily bread, and so long as he gets on with his agriculture flourishing and so long as his rights are safeguarded and his property is safe, he is willing and ready to sympathise with you and co-operate with you. Unless you do these things, you cannot expect his sympathy or co-operation. (Hear, hear.) I therefore think it very necessary that the Irrigation Department under the guidance of our able Member (Hear, hear) for

14th March 1932] [Sir A. P. Patro]

Revenue should take effective steps to remedy the difficulties of the ryots. I am sure he will take immediate steps in putting up an anicut and train the mouth of the channels I have above mentioned to prevent future silting.

"One word more, Sir, before I resume my seat. It is also very much to be noted that last time when the re-settlement rates were being considered promises were made to the ryots that large sums will be expended to improve the irrigated systems. But as has been pointed out by more than one speaker before, I see from the Budget itself very small provision being made for this purpose. Why is it that in spite of the assurances given by the Government the ryots of Godavari and Kistna deltas from whom enhanced rates are collected are not looked after? Now this is a serious matter so far as the condition of the ryots is concerned. They have agreed to certain conditions in regard to the levy of enhanced rates of assessment. May I know why those conditions are not fulfilled by the Government? In this respect the ryots of the Godavari and Kistna deltas have a real grievance, if the conditions are disregarded. The ryot is not so ignorant or such a fool as to abide by unjust orders. He sees crores of rupees being spent on the Mettur Project for converting a dry Pattukkottai taluk into a wet ayacut. He sees also the neighbouring districts clamouring for a portion of the water from the Mettur Project. Seeing these he asks why sympathy should be shown by Government towards one part of the Presidency and the other parts neglected in the matter of irrigation. Sir, this problem is the crucial problem which is agitating the minds of the ryots of the other parts of the Presidency. Now if you take the Irrigation Budget you will find a provision being made for the two districts of Tanjore and Trichinopoly more than others. So, Sir, this is a desideratum which must be very seriously considered by the Government. Therefore I urge on the Government to make allotments of the available amount of money by equitably distributing it among the several districts. Sir, I am done, and I only wish that this matter is taken up immediately and adequate relief is given to the suffering ryots of the Province."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, during the general discussion of the Budget I have given expression to the feelings of the ryots of the Godavari-Kistna delta area with regard to the re-settlement rates. At the time of passing the final Government Order on the matter, as remarked by Sir Patro, Government promised the ryots that in the Budget, provision will be made for constructing certain irrigation works. I have already pointed out that out of the three projects promised, looking at the Budget I see that except one all the other projects were projects which they are bound to carry out. Prior to 1924, they have collected large sums of money to the extent of several lakhs of rupees (which have been earning interest all these years) from the ryots by way of inclusion fee with a view to provide irrigation facilities and to convert dry lands into wet ones. Therefore, Sir, on that account Government are in fairness bound to budget for

[Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu] [14th March 1932

these projects. In fact their not doing so amounts to a breach of contract on their part. The sum they have allotted in the Budget is only two lakhs for all the projects relating to Kistna and Godavari districts. (*A voice*: Speak loudly please.) The total cost of the new project is estimated at Rs. 89,000. Of this sum the share of the Government will come to about Rs. 72,000. The scheme if carried out at once will bring an initial revenue of four lakhs by the sale of waste lands and a sum of Rs. 16,000 by way of annual revenue. And if the scheme is prolonged, it will do good neither to the Government nor to the people. As it is, the sum of Rs. 30,000 provided for will have to be spent in the acquisition of lands for channels, and there will be hardly left any money for excavating new channels or improving the channels already existing there. Besides, the work can be proceeded with only between January and June, and during the remaining months it has to be held up on account of the rainy season. That means to say, it will take some years before the project is accomplished. And this will practically get no immediate benefit to the ryots. I have already said that the inclusion fee that has already been collected amounts to a large figure and the scheme provides for the conversion of 4,000 acres of dry land into wet; and thus it will benefit thousands of families if the scheme is taken up immediately and completed in a year or two. It is said that Government made the promise of allotments for new works at the time of passing the Government Order to strike the imagination of the people. I think the Government has only meant it as a device to allay public discontent at the time of passing the final Government Order. (*A voice*: Louder please.) I do not wish to say much as Sir Patro has already spoken on the Irrigation policy of the Government in general. I only wish the Government will do something tangible in the matter to allay public discontent."

45] m. * Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Mr. President, I am very glad, Sir, that Sir A. P. Patro gave expression to many sentiments which almost every member of this House here will endorse. But there are one or two things which it is not possible to understand. For instance, he wants special treatment for a portion of his district which is subject to frequent famines and wants a large amount of money to be spent for irrigation works for that portion of the country. I quite agree with him that the Government ought to pay attention to a tract like that. But at the same time to attack the Government for spending money on Tanjore and Trichinopoly or to advocate distributing money among all the districts equally seems to me to be due to a misconception. Unfortunately, some of us are not so well placed as those in some other districts and for that reason we should not stand in the way of other people being benefited, of course not very much at the expense of the Presidency. Having said that, I only want to know from the hon. the Irrigation Member the state in which some of the irrigation works connected with my district is. The first, Sir, is the Bhavani project. Last year I begged the Government to reconsider and re-enquire into the question of the two Bhavani schemes and see whether it is not possible to take up the Upper Bhavani project.

14th March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

Apparently the Government found it not possible for reasons some of which at any rate we cannot very much appreciate. They are not prepared, Sir, to take up the Upper Bhavani project. But at least the Lower Bhavani project can be proceeded with. I should like to know from the hon. the Irrigation Member in what stage the enquiry with reference to the Lower Bhavani project is at the present moment. Last year about this time we were told that the scheme is going to be sanctioned very soon. But so far as we can see, no appreciable progress seems to have been made. I said here last year that the necessity for sanctioning the Bhavani scheme is two fold. One is that the country that is going to be affected by the scheme is as bad as any part of this Province. I said that portions of Avanashi, Erode and Gobichettipalayam taluks which the scheme will serve are very dry taluks quite as bad as any portion of Bellary and Anantapur and are therefore entitled to first preference. Secondly, Sir, I also drew attention to the fact that the Mettur Project will be completed in probably another two years and then all the tools and plants that have been purchased at so much cost will be practically wasted unless they are used by a scheme closeby. I appeal to the Government to consider this aspect of the question that if these plants and tools are to be sold, very little will be realized. If, on the other hand, a scheme like the Lower Bhavani is worked, the Government will be saving a crore of rupees by the utilization of this machinery. So, I appealed to the Irrigation Member last year that he might consider this aspect of the question also and see that the project is sanctioned without delay—at any rate in time to be taken up as soon as the Mettur Project is completed. Then, Sir, the other scheme to which also I drew attention last year is the Siruvani project which was mainly intended to supply water to Coimbatore town. A volume of water enough to irrigate 3,000 acres will be available. It has to be considered whether Government will not be doing better to strengthen the present irrigation source and if necessary raise the classification of water sources now in existence. Sir, the present water-supply is very precarious in Noyyal and many of the lands suffer. I can say that even most of the lands nnder that irrigation suffer from want of water. Even in the best of times the supply is precarious. Such being the case preference ought to be given to these areas which are already getting water from the Noyyal river. That supply ought to be made more or less safe and as I said if necessary even the classification of the irrigation sources may be raised and I am sure people will not object to that, provided they are assured of an adeqnate supply every year. These are the two things to which I wanted to draw the attention of the hon. the Irrigation Member.

"Having said this there is another question of importance to which I wish to call attention, that is the question of the policy of minor irrigation works. In the matter of minor irrigation, in spite of the efforts that are being made the results obtained have not been very satisfactory. Unfortunately, it is always a difficult question to apportion blame for this unsatisfactory state of affairs. I know the Government

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [14th March 1932

say that even the money they allot is not spent. I know the complaint. If we at the same time go to the district and money be asked for any particular work either there is nobody to investigate and carry out the work or if it comes to the stage of being sanctioned somebody or other says there is no money available. For these unsatisfactory state of things I do not know how Government is going to find a remedy. Sir, a more vigorous policy of encouraging minor irrigation works by repairing existing sources and bringing into existence new sources ought to be undertaken. The present system of the Revenue Department having an overseer here and an overseer there and treating it as a step child does not improve the situation. Probably the Public Works Department with a better co-operation from the Revenue Department ought to undertake this sort of work. There ought to be a sort of survey in each district of the possibility of improving the minor irrigation sources. If that is done, probably we will be in a better position to deal with this matter. I am also very much concerned at the resolution passed by the Retrenchment Committee in this matter. I saw one of the resolutions of the Retrenchment Committee which was unfortunately in favour of reduction of the allotment made for minor irrigation works. I can only say that this is a most unsatisfactory resolution passed by that Committee. On what ground it was based, it is not possible for me to divine. At any rate, I am sure the House will very largely be in my favour if I press on the hon. the Irrigation Member not to give heed to that resolution and not to carry it out but to see that a larger amount is allotted for these minor irrigation works and also to see every year that this money is spent and a proper survey of the possibilities is being carried out and works are carried out as soon as possible. I hope the hon. the Irrigation Member will see that whatever the pressure of the Finance Department may be, it does not win in this very important matter affecting the ryots."

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, I should like to say one or two words with particular reference to the district which I represent in this House, namely, the North Arcot district. Even at the risk of a charge of being parochial being made against me I should not miss the opportunity of saying a few words, because I do not think the cut motion which I have given notice of is likely to be reached. I want to press upon the hon. the Revenue Member the necessity for the speedy investigation and for the speedy removal of the grievances of the ryots of North Arcot district. Sir, North Arcot district is the sixth largest revenue paying district in the whole of the Presidency and it pays over 29 lakhs as land revenue every year. Sir, I maintain that it is entitled to some consideration at the hands of the hon. the Revenue Member. The chief grievance of the North Arcot district has been, and it has been ventilated time and again on the floor of this House, about the failure of the freshes in the Palar. Palar is to the North Arcot district what the Cauvery is to the Tanjore and Trichinopoly and what the Godavari is to the Godavari districts. I have come here with a particular mandate from my constituency that during the time I am here I should devote my sole undivided attention to the question of the removal of the grievances of the ryots under the

14th March 1932] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

Palar irrigation system. Sir, the Palar basin partly lies in the Mysore territory and partly lies in the Madras territory. It is somewhat curious that in the year 1902, the Madras Government permitted the Mysore Government to raise the level of one of their main tanks by about 9 feet with the result that the capacity of that tank which lies in the Mysore territory has been increased from 222·56 million cubic feet to 572 million cubic feet. That is to say, the capacity of one of the largest tanks into which the Palar drops and takes off before it enters into the Madras Presidency has been more than doubled and curiously enough ever since this improvement of the capacity of the Mysore tank has been permitted, there has been an absolute failure of freshes. I only need point out that for the 20 years before this permission was given, that is to say, between 1885 to 1905 there have been 225 days on which there have been freshes in the Palar, while subsequent to the improvement permitted by the Madras Government between 1905 and 1925 there have been freshes only for 64 days. Sir, it is obvious also, 12 noon if this fact is taken into consideration along with the other fact that there has been no variation in the average rain-fall either in the Mysore basin or the Madras catchment area of the Palar river, that the only explanation for the failure of the freshes in the Palar is to be attributed to this improvement that has been allowed to be made to the Bethamangalam tank without the slightest consideration for the welfare of the ryots down the Palar river in the Madras Presidency. This question was agitated on the floor of the House even as early as September 1929, and in pursuance of a resolution which this House has been pleased to adopt then a Committee was formed in 1931 and that Committee held two or three sittings and finally reported that until further information was furnished as regards the improvement that had been effected in the Mysore basin of the Palar river they would not be able to say why there had been a failure of freshes in the Palar. It is more than 14 months now since the Committee called for the information, and no information has yet been furnished either to the Committee or to the Members of this House. If it is also realized that this Palar irrigation system has been and is responsible for the cultivation of such a large area as 3 lakhs of acres, both in the North Arcot and Chingleput districts, it can be easily realized what the failure of the freshes would mean to the very large number of ryots who depend upon this 3 lakhs and odd acres of land for their livelihood. The question is one of vital importance to both these districts, and there is a general impression that the failure of the freshes in the Palar is to be attributed also to the unauthorized improvements effected by the Mysore Government in the Palar basin of their area. In this connexion I must also bring home to the hon. the Revenue Member, the fact that the Mysore Government as early as 1914 had, without the permission of the Madras Government and against the sacred terms and treaties and sanads entered into between the two Governments, made unauthorized improvements to another large tank into which the Palar drops and takes off, namely, the Amanikarai tank. It has been so improved that it is now found

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [14th March 1932

to contain as much as 225 million cubic feet of water. This unauthorized improvement was not discovered by the Madras Government till many years later and when the officer who discovered it reported to the Madras Government we learn from the papers that he was admonished, and nothing more was heard of it; and it was only at the Committee stage that this matter again cropped up on a specific question put by me to the officer concerned. No information was given as to why this unauthorized improvement was effected and when it was discovered by the Madras Government. I mention these two instances to show that there has been a real cause for apprehension in the minds of the people that the failure of the freshes in the Palar has been due to the permission given by the Madras Government in 1902 to raise the level of the tank and other unauthorized improvements made by the Mysore Government within the Palar basin. In this connexion the Committee that was appointed also asked that in the investigations to be made a responsible officer of the Madras Government should be associated with them in collecting statistics and other details. That request was not complied with. It should also be mentioned here that the 1902 Agreement permitted the Mysore Government to raise the level of the Bethamangalam tank, but there is a specific condition in it, namely, that in raising the level, the Mysore Government should do it so as to take only 72 million cubic feet of water and allow the rest, namely, 156 million cubic feet to flow into the Palar river. As yet no steps have been taken by the Madras Government to verify whether the Mysore Government had fulfilled this part of the contract. This question has been causing considerable hardship to the ryots during the last 30 years, that is, since the agreement was concluded between the two Governments. Therefore, it is essential on the part of the Madras Government, if the scantiest justice is to be done to the ryots of the two districts of North Arcot and Chingleput, to see that the terms of this Agreement, at least, if the Agreement is not irrevocable, are strictly enforced.

"I would say that though it is 13 or 14 months after the Committee had submitted its report, no steps have been taken to see that the information asked for by it has been placed before it. I must characterize the whole procedure of the Madras Government as one of procrastination, drift and delay.

"I have just to make one other reference to another project to which also the House has assented by a specific resolution, namely, the project of damming the Cheyyar river in Tiruvannamalai taluk. I understand that a preliminary investigation was carried out some time ago, but nothing was heard of it after that. The question was again agitated in this House and the House was good enough to accept a resolution urging on the Government the necessity of reinvestigating the scheme and starting it at an early date, so that the turbulent waters that are allowed to run to waste through the Cheyyar river might be utilized for purposes of irrigation.

14th March 1932] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

"Ours is one of the largest districts from the point of view of land revenue, still even these small schemes have not been pushed through. I ask the hon. the Revenue Member in what stage the question of this irrigation scheme in Cheyyar stands.

"I would also, speaking under this demand, bring to the notice of the hon. Revenue Member one other fact which though it does not relate to the subject on hand, still is of general interest to all Members of the House, namely, the unsatisfactory condition of the Buckingham canal. This canal was completed at a very great expense, as much as 88 lakhs having been expended for the purpose of digging it. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, pointed out, this canal is in a very unsatisfactory condition. At one time this canal was largely used for the purpose of moving goods from one part of the Presidency to another. It has been a great means of communication, because it is obvious that water-borne transport is less costly than land-borne transport. The number of boats plying on this canal have fallen very largely during recent years chiefly due to the inefficient condition in which the canal is being maintained. A depth of 4 feet is necessary for ordinary boats to ply in this canal, but for the most part of the year this depth is not maintained. I shall give another instance of a grave lapse in regard to this matter. There is a lock called Chintamani lock about 20 miles off Madras, which is necessary to keep up the level of water between one portion and another. This lock has been taken away about a month ago, and to this day it has not been replaced, with the result that the proper level is not maintained. I am not blaming the Revenue Member directly for this, but the blame certainly must go to the official responsible for the proper maintenance of the canal. *If trade is to be developed in our Presidency, it Government* wants more revenue, here is one source that can be tapped. If the canal is maintained properly, there will be a great stimulus to canal traffic, prosperity to trade and profit to Government.

"Again, we find with regard to this canal, the licence fees, wharf and demurrage fees have been increased, but the boat plyers are suffering in trade on account of the shallowness of the river. There are other minor grievances and I dare say the boat owners will in proper time make representations to the Government. Here is a case to which Government have to pay immediate attention, even if it is only to improve their profits in this direction.

"I once again urge on the hon. the Revenue Member the necessity of bringing to a speedy conclusion the enquiries started by the Palar Irrigation Committee and furnishing the Committee the information sought by them so as to enable them to draw their conclusions and make an early report."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—"Mr. President, the hon. Member for Ganjam (Sir Patro) has given us a graphic account of the way in which the Government of Madras conceives its irrigation policies and succeeds in not carrying them out. In my own district of Tinnevelly, there has been a scheme known as Papanasam Reservoir scheme. This scheme

[Mr. Daniel Thomas] [14th March 1932

was adumbrated some years ago, and I believe the Government having conceived the scheme experts are now sitting upon it, and I believe they will succeed in finally scrapping it. So, the only consolation the people of Tinnevelly will have is that they had a scheme propounded by Government, that experts had been so good as to consider the scheme in all its details, and finally either because of the economic difficulties of Government or some other reason, the scheme is not feasible at present of immediate or practical execution. We do realize that the Government is now face to face with serious financial difficulties, and for the present, I on behalf of my own district am content to ask for smaller mercies. I hope and trust that this Papanasam scheme will engage the attention of the Government when more prosperous years come round, in the near future, but for the present we have immediate and urgent needs which deserve and require the immediate and careful attention of the Government. Of late the Tambraparni has been suffering from an epidemic of floods, and the havoc done to wet lands, homes and habitations of the people by these floods is incalculable.

·15 n. "Sir, this year Tinnevelly district has had the misfortune of the visitation of floods in the river and in consequence as I mentioned in the course of my remarks at the time of the general discussion of the Budget, thousands of houses were destroyed and thousands of acres of wet lands were rendered unfit for cultivation. Several embankments of tanks which are intended for the purpose of storing water in the cultivation seasons were destroyed. It is absolutely necessary that repairs to these tanks should be made immediately and the tanks kept in proper condition, so that during the next monsoon, which will begin in June or so and when freshes come in the rivers, these tanks may be made fit enough to hold the necessary storage of water-supply for irrigation of lands. I am submitting for the consideration of the hon. the Revenue Member that time is of the essence of the matter in this question and unless Government take up the repair works urgently and have them finished before the breaking of the monsoon season the ryots cannot carry on their cultivation work with any benefit to themselves. It so happens that the freshes come in the rivers normally in June of every year and the repairs to canals which are taken up by the Engineering Department are not done by the time when the water comes in the rivers. I believe in the year 1931 when the floods came in the month of June canals were still being repaired by the Engineering Department and they were not allowed to have water when floods were going down in the rivers to the sea. The result was owing to the delay in taking advantage of the water-supply in the rivers, there was scarcity during the latter part of the season and I believe the outturn of crops was considerably less than it would otherwise have been if the storing of water-supply was taken advantage of at the proper season. This year, I am afraid, there is a good deal of apprehension among the ryots of my district that the same thing may repeat itself. If, in this year also, owing to the failure of the Engineering Department to carry

14th March 1932] [Mr. Daniel Thomas]

all the channels and tanks, we are afraid that the same tale may repeat itself. Unless the District Collector and the Executive Engineer issue instructions to their subordinates to see that repairs to these channels and tanks are carried out in time and that water is let in these channels and tanks in the beginning of June, I am afraid there will not be a sufficient supply of water stored in tanks and channels for the cultivation of lands during the latter part of the year, when floods subside in the rivers. It would be a very great danger to the cultivating ryots who are getting their supply of water by storage in tanks and in channels if they are not able to get water in these tanks and reservoirs at the proper time. So I submit that in the interests of both the ryot as well as the Government it is essential that these repairs should be carried out at the proper time.

" One of the matters that I would like to mention to the hon. the Revenue Member is this: while I urge on the Government that especially after the occurrence of the floods they must carry out certain relief works to the people and also repairs to the various irrigation tanks and channels, I would more strongly urge upon him to go to the root cause of the whole thing. We must find out the causes as to how these floods have occurred. It appears that these floods now occur more often than in olden times. It appears that the river bed owing to anicut system becomes silted up and so the silting up of the river bed is the cause for the frequent occurrences of floods in the rivers. I believe if the Government were to go into this question more deeply, and find out what are the causes for these periodical floods they will be doing immense benefit to the ryots. Of the 12 lakhs of acres which are under cultivation in my district, less than 2 lakhs of acres are under wet cultivation and the remaining acres are being cultivated according to the dry methods. They depend entirely upon rains. It would therefore appear that a large portion of the cultivable lands in the districts is dry and a good portion of the wet cultivated areas also is depending upon small tanks which require constant attendance by way of deepening and removing of silt.

" With reference to these minor irrigation works in my district, I may say that whenever any schemes of importance are to be carried out, the Government usually demand a certain amount of compensation from the ryot. When this matter was brought to the notice of the Government a year or two ago, the hon. the Revenue Member said on the floor of this House that the Government do not levy any contribution from the ryot. Whatever may be the rule, I know that unless the ryots are prepared to make a substantial contribution the Government say that they are not willing to move in the matter. I believe it is a real hardship to the ryots because these minor irrigation works and tanks provide for small anicuts and the poor ryots are not in a position to make any contribution. I submit that Government without expecting any contribution should be in a position to carry out these repairs. So far as the Tinnevelly district is concerned, with reference to the two subdivisions, *viz.*, Nanguneri and Sathankulam, I submit that

[Mr. Daniel Thomas] [14th March 1932

these two subdivisions require very great consideration on the part of Government in the matter of minor irrigation schemes. I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will devote special attention to these divisions of the Tinnevelly district. I believe he has recently visited Tinnevelly and has therefore familiarized himself with the conditions prevailing there. I do hope, therefore, he will see that proper attention is devoted to the needs and requirements of that district."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—"I am glad that the representatives of the various districts have exhausted the schemes in their respective places. My friend, Sir A. P. Patro, made a survey of the whole of India. But, Sir, I am more acquainted with the agriculturists between the rivers Palar and Penniar. I am glad that my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, has dealt with the question of Palar River Irrigation scheme so beautifully that I have nothing more to add to it. Year after year we have been speaking about minor irrigation works and other irrigation facilities. I request the hon. the Revenue Member to tell us what improvement he has made in that direction. Let me now confine myself to Chingleput district. The reservoirs and tanks situated in that district are in the same condition as they were thirty years ago. In fact they have become deteriorated and shallow. They cannot hold the same amount of water as they were holding before. We have got enough of water resources in our district, but yet the Government do not utilize them. If only Government spend a few thousands of rupees in digging channels and in keeping the reservoirs in good repair, water can be conserved in plenty which will be useful for irrigation purposes. The rivers in the districts in flood time are wasting their water into the sea. Water which can cultivate about thousands of acres of lands in the districts are allowed to be wasted. It is a mere neglect of the Revenue Department not to have dug channels and connected them to tanks; if only the Government were to dig one channel and construct one tank every year in each district, there will be then in existence 260 channels and 260 reservoirs in ten years. It is not yet too late and even now they can take up the work in hand. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, said the river Tambraparni is overflowing. I assure him that not only in Tinnevelly but with regard to the rivers all over the Presidency, the condition is the same, because the river beds are being silted up. We have got two rivers in Chingleput district, viz., about 20 to 25 miles from Madras, Kulathalyar and Aranyanathi. Both of them with the same amount of rain which we are having now did not overflow about 30 years ago. Now with less rain both these rivers overflow and cause damage to the paddy fields, because they are silted up. Their embankments should be raised or some other engineering effort should be made to see that water does not overflow. It can, I believe, be achieved by digging a net work of channels, connecting channels with channels and rivers with rivers as was once suggested by an able Engineer. By such a system all the dry lands could be converted into wet ones. It is said that the Sangameswaram project when it is completed will be connected with some of

14th March 1932] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

the rivers in the south of Madras. But let us not wait for that. Let us prepare the way for such a connexion. Let us have this net work of channels by spending a few thousands of rupees every year. Of course, as our hon. Friend the expert Member Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar said, it will be a great advantage. It was possible for Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar to bring the Mettur Project Conference with the Mysore Government to a successful completion. Is there not a C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar now? Why not our hon. Revenue Member do it in the case of Sangameswaram project, and bring it to a success? I know our hon. Revenue Member is always sincere and well meaning. Before that, let us see that all these small things are done and the ryots do not suffer till the Sangameswaram project matures. 12-? p.m

"Sir, for many years past we have been agitating in this Council with regard to the better maintenance of the Cooum and the Buckingham Canal but all our remonstrances have been altogether in vain. Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar spoke about the condition of the Buckingham Canal 25 *miles out from the city, but I want to speak of the condition* of the canal in the *city* itself which is the sojourn of all the Members of this Council. How beautiful it would be if the canal was kept clean and if you had good embankments and walls on either side. You might probably have boat races on the canal; it may be used for pleasure trips and trade purposes. But, on the other hand, all the refuse and the fæcal matter of Government offices such as the Board of Revenue and the Public Works Department and the Senate House, the Presidency College and the Queen Mary's College are indiscriminately let into the Buckingham Canal. The banks of the canal are a huge latrine, and the bed of the canal is a breeding place of mosquitoes. Most probably the Buckingham canal supplies mosquitoes to the whole city; it is responsible to a certain extent for devitalization and predisposition to disease of the residents of the city. Any amount of bawling out *in this Council* has not been of any effect with the hon. the Revenue Member or any other Member in charge of this subject. The last time I spoke on the subject I outlined a scheme of improvements to the Canal and the Cooum. If it had been carried out, the Buckingham Canal would have become such a pleasant thing that people would not have to go as far as the Marina but would be glad to have their carriages parked by the side of the canal and enjoy the breeze there. Even boat races might have been possible. The canal would have been a very efficient means of transporting foodstuffs and other materials from the outlying places into the Madras city. With these few words, Sir, I request the hon. the Revenue Member to take the necessary steps to improve the minor irrigation works in Chingleput district and also to carry out the necessary improvements to—you may all laugh at it, but let me say—my beloved Cooum."

* Mr. A. Pl. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI:—"Sir, in supporting the cut motion I wish to urge upon the Government the necessity for surmounting the irrigation difficulties experienced by the landholders of Tanjore district and to censure the apathy of Government in the matter. At the time of the resettlement in 1892 and in 1922 the Special

Settlement Officers pointedly drew attention to the neglect on the part of the authorities of their duties in respect of the maintenance in proper repair of the irrigation facilities for the ryots of the Tanjore district.

" Then, Sir, we had the Cauvery Committee consisting of influential landholders, which about the time of last resettlement had reported fully on the requirements of this district and had pressed upon the Government the urgency of a number of improvements and repairs many of which still remain to be carried out. To cite a few instances we were told by the hon. the Member for Revenue on 12th March 1931 that improvements to the drainage of some sections of the Cauvery delta would be taken up. I ask the hon. Member whether he has done so. Then, there is another important recommendation by the Cauvery Committee, viz., the construction of a regulator below Saluvanar head. It is said that the Superintending Engineer considers this unnecessary. As this is an important matter, is it not incumbent upon Government to refer his opinion to the Cauvery Committee for further consideration? Not to do that will lower the Committee in the estimation of the public. *When the Committee's recommendation is there, I fail to understand* why the hon. the Revenue Member should be putting off the works so urgently needed. What is the result? Immediately after the resettlement, much havoc was done by the heavy floods of 1924. Then there were heavy losses on account of unprecedented rains during the harvest season of 1926 and lastly we had the heavy breaches in 1930 and 1931. All these hit hard both the mirasidars and the Government—the mirasidars in the province lost a crore of rupees by being deprived of property and life and Government has granted a remission of nearly 11 lakhs of rupees. ' Prevention is better than cure.' All these losses to Government would have been avoided, if many of the works recommended by the Cauvery Committee had been taken up seriously and executed in time. The most important items dealt with by the Committee related to the disposal of drainage water in the Tiruturaipundi and Shivali taluks and these were recommended by the Super*intending Engineer. If you take the drainage of* Nadagudi, you see from paragraph 35 of the Report that Mr. Jackson, Special Settlement Officer, recommended reduction of the class of soil in view of defective drainage system. This defect, though pointed out even as early as 1907, has not yet been remedied. Last year all the rivers breached; and many of them would not have breached if the banks had a safe bund of 3 feet above the observed M.F.L. Due to the neglect on the part of the Government to attend to this important item, public money is being wasted. Considering the past experience of recurrence of floods in the district, I ask in all seriousness whether the hon. Member is not failing in his duty by delaying the execution of some of the important works. Again, Sir, I have to draw the attention of Government to the fact that they do not spend an adequate amount in the upkeep and maintenance of the irrigation channels, though channels in the other systems of irrigation are repaired and maintained by Government. *I would therefore impress upon them, the necessity of devoting more* money for repairing and maintaining all the channels.

14th March 1932] [Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai]

" The next important thing to which I would invite the attention of the Government is with regard to the supply of water late in the year regardless of practical utility. The most important wet crop in this district is paddy. Nature has ordained that this crop shall mature in a particular season of the year. It is impossible to change the cultivation season to suit the choice of Government. The whole irrigation season is from the 15th of June to the 31st January, a period of 6½ months only, and within this period the crops have to be raised. The first crop and second crop overlap each other for about six weeks in July and August, when the second crop seedlings are in the nursery."

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Sir, should not this subject come under the next Demand—the Demand containing the grant for the Cauvery-Mettur Project? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" If the hon. Member is referring to irrigation under the Cauvery-Mettur Project, he may postpone his remarks to the next Demand."

Mr. A. Pl. N. V. NADIMUTHU PILLAI:—" I am not referring to the Mettur Project.

" It is during this period that the ryots need water most. Just imagine the mind of the mirasidar when at this juncture the supply of water stops and he has to look up to the heavens for rains. The disappointment is sometimes caused by human agency also—I mean the lower subordinates or village officials, who are at times yielding to the pressure of influential persons, for, in fact, in their hands is left the entire responsibility of distributing water by turns. Here, Sir, the ryots are left to the mercy of the subordinate officers of the Revenue Department. Could not the Government entrust this important work to more responsible officers?

" Therefore I appeal to the hon. the Member for Revenue to be more sympathetic towards the landholders of the Tanjore district in their present woeful plight and redress their outstanding grievances relating to irrigation as best he could."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I had not intended to intervene in the debate just now, but an urgent telegram received from Madura an hour ago compels me as a representative of Madura to take an early opportunity of bringing certain important matters to the notice of the Government and this House. The point is this: crops in a large part of the Madura district are withering for want of timely supply of water although water is available for supply. Let me first of all read the text of the telegram sent me by the ryots of the Nilakota taluk in the Madura district:

'More than thousand acres Vadagarai channel ayacut Irumbadi, Karuppatti, Kurivithurai, Velampatti villages, Nilakota taluk of Madura district three-fourths mature crops withering want of spring water supply under mamool right for ten days past. Several petitions local authorities no avail yet. Pray immediately order permitting taking spring water Vadagarai channel else immense loss.

'(Signed) Balakrishna Nayuda and other ryots of Irumbadi, etc., villages.'

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [14th March 1932

" It appears that from the river Suraliar spring water supply is available for use in the Cumbum valley. But although an application was made to the local authorities, Mr. Hall who is supposed to know a great deal of the Periyar irrigation system has thought fit to stop the supply of spring-water to the Cumbum Valley people. I understand that the Chief Engineer does not object to the supply of the spring water. If that is so, the question is whether the crops should be allowed to wither for want of water notwithstanding the fact that in the opinion of the Chief Engineer the spring-water may be utilized for this purpose, because Mr. Hall, the Collector of Madura, has certain preconceived ideas of his own which do not exactly tally with those of the Chief Engineer. It appears that on the basis of Mr. Hall's report the Board of Revenue has passed orders agreeing with him to stop the supply of spring-water. It is not in fact a question of diversion of Periyar supply to an area not entitled to Periyar water. It is only a question of supplying the spring water of Suraliyar to an area entitled to such supply and but for which supply enormous loss is bound to result. Apart from the question of rights or no rights, when you are face to face with an impending loss over a wide area in the district and when there is a supply available I do not know why the Government should not in an emergency like this ask the local authorities to pass emergent orders though as an exceptional case in order to avert such a loss. This is a matter which must be gone into immediately by the hon. Member in charge so that he may by operating on the telegraph wires secure a compliance with the orders which he may deem fit to pass in consultation with the Chief Engineer.

" In this connexion I should like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member the desirability, if not the urgency, of securing a supply from the Periyar to the Kallarnad area in Tirumangalam taluk of the Madura district. This is a scheme which has long been pressed in the interests of the Kallar population. It would go not only to reclaim the land which is very badly in need of water, but it would reclaim, refine and civilize a large population of Madura district who are amenable to civilizing influences, but who for want of water to cultivate the land and divert their energies to agricultural pursuits are constrained to confine their energies to mischievous and even offensive directions.

" There is one other matter with regard to the Tinnevelly district which has long been claiming the attention of the Government. The Government paid some attention to it recently. I refer to the Manur channel which for the last fifty or sixty years was neglected. So long as Mr. Chavadi K. Subrahmanya Pillai was in this Council, year after year he brought the matter before the House but nothing substantial was done. A couple of years ago, when Sir Norman Marjoribanks was the Member in charge of this subject, I took the matter to him somewhat at short notice and got considerable repairs undertakeu to this channel. But the repairs are not yet complete and still there is something to be done at the tail end and at the head works. Along with the Manur channel something has also to be done to the *Maranthai* channel which is also part and parcel of the same scheme. [illegible]

executed in part certain essential work of this kind, Government should not leave it at that; they should continue the work simultaneously on the two channels and bring it to completion.

"There is another small matter which I am glad is receiving the personal attention of the hon. Member though relief is yet to come. I refer to the village called Kottalam which is situated near Palamcottah in the Tinnevelly district. There, it is not a cry for water but it is a cry for getting rid of water. About 350 acres of wet land in that village paying a large assessment to the Government are year after year spoiled. Owing to the want of a suitable drainage channel, the crops have to be under water for a long time which destroys them altogether. Something like Rs. 25,000 on the average per annum is the loss sustained by the ryots of that village. The Government is collecting its land revenue to the full, year after year, though it is not supplying the ryots with the facility of a drainage channel. Heavy winds have brought about this feature, namely, that sand is blown up into a huge mound just where there ought to have been a drainage channel to carry away the surplus water from the fields. There was at one time a row of casuarina trees that served to counteract the operation of these heavy winds. But some of these trees were allowed to be cut and sold away and that was the work of one of the Government departments. For want of co-ordination between two Government departments who are in charge of this work, the result has been that ryots have been victimised by the sale of the trees and the destruction of the drainage channel. It is high time, I think that the hon. the Revenue Member who recently visited the place and who knows all about the matter—there is the advantage of the Chief Engineer also having seen the area—should take necessary and drastic action in the matter." 12-45 p.m.

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have listened with great interest to the remarks made by various hon. Members and I feel that if I were in their place, I should naturally have pressed the needs of my district just as they have done. The demands of the districts are so great that, I am sure, hon. Members will realize that it is not possible to comply with every request that is made at the same time even if we were in a very prosperous condition. At the present moment we are in financial difficulties to balance our Budget and we have therefore to confine our attention to what is more specially necessary.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar—I do not blame him—returned to the charge that the Government are not doing enough to deal with drainage in the Tanjore delta under the Cauvery river. I have, on former occasions, pointed out that the Government have carried out certain improvements with regard to this drainage. The matter is still engaging the anxious attention of the Government. My hon. Friend quoted from the recent order passed by the Government in last December dealing with the effects of the floods in 1930 and the measures to be adopted to mitigate the effects of such floods in future. My hon. Friend criticized one of the proposals for which estimates have

been called for, namely, the proposal for a high level escape on the left bank of the river Pamaniyar; I can assure him that his remarks will receive consideration when the estimates are received. The right bank of the Pamaniyar is 3 feet lower than that of the left bank, because the land slopes up from the right bank. Excessive floods will first spill over the right bank and every attempt will be made to see that as little damage as possible is done to the delta.

" My hon. Friend referred to what is usually known as No. 2 scheme for dealing with the Vennar upland drainage. That scheme is estimated at something over Rs. 20 lakhs and it is quite beyond our means now. It is true, no doubt, that we receive considerable revenue from the Tanjore delta but we cannot accept the principle that the revenue obtained from a certain area must necessarily be spent on that area. We are doing all we can to meet the difficulties to which the ryots are put owing to floods. We have just completed No. 1 drainage scheme diverting a considerable portion of the Vennar upland drainage into the Coleroon. We propose to carry out certain other measures not involving such heavy expenses as the No. 2 scheme.

" As regards Tiruturaipundi to which my hon. Friend referred, it is also receiving our consideration. I paid a visit to the area myself during the Christmas holidays of 1930–31; there is some disagreement as to the best measures to be adopted for the improvement of the drainage in that area. As far as I can see, one of the main difficulties seems to be that the outlets into the sea there as well as elsewhere in the whole of the Tanjore delta are somewhat inadequate and become closed or reduced from time to time when there are no floods. We see the same process going on annually at the mouths of the rivers in Madras city. Whether anything can be done to keep these mouths open to a greater extent is a matter to be enquired into.

" Before I leave the Tanjore delta, I may refer to the suggestion that we ought to spend more upon maintenance and repairs of the works in that area. I may point out that in the last few years, the amounts spent on maintenance and repairs on the Cauvery delta system have been considerably increased. In the year 1922–23 we spent $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs of rupees; it rose to Rs. $4\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs in the following year; it was Rs. 6 lakhs in the year 1924–25; the amount spent dropped only once to below that figure in the subsequent years; it rose to over Rs. $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in the year 1927–28. That does not include various sums spent on extensions and improvements which have amounted to over a lakh of rupees a year during recent years.

" With regard to Godavari and Kistna districts, the charge has been brought against me that we undertook, when we introduced the new resettlement rates in these districts, to carry out certain works of improvement to the irrigation and drainage in these deltas and that we have not made adequate provision in the budget for carrying them out. I will now read the list of works mentioned in the Government Order issued on resettlement and state the action the Government have taken or are taking in respect of each. The first work is the provision of machinery for lifting the shutters on the Godavari anicut for which

14th March 1932] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

we have provided a sum of Rs. 1 lakh against the estimate of Rs. 1¼ lakhs. The next is the remodelling of the channel and improvement of the drainage channels; we have already made provision for carrying out certain works and a special staff is employed there for the purpose and we intend to proceed with that work. The Chief Engineer is going to put up a comprehensive scheme for remodelling the channels in respect of the whole ayacut under the Godavari anicut.

"In the Kistna delta we have already a staff on duty working out proposals to the same end. We have certain provision for improving the Yenamaduru drain. We have also provided in Part I Schemes for a proposal which comes under the fourth item here for the conversion of the Duvva bridge across the Yenamaduru drain into a regulator; it is included under the improvements to the Yenamaduru drain and is treated as a part of that big scheme. The intention is to carry it out in the next year. We have made provision for a third item, viz., the delimitation of the ultimate ayacut and the preparation of ayacut registers and maps in the Godavari districts and for this a sum of Rs. 19,000 is provided under Part II Schemes. The extension of the second crop irrigation in the Godavari delta—the fifth item—is also provided for. The construction of a new channel to supply Divi island in the Kistna district—the sixth item— is also under investigation. A scheme for the improvement of the Pedda Lanka channel—the seventh item—is also under investigation. It is mentioned in the Government Order that a special revenue staff would be required for the eighth item—the localization of the ayacut in the Kistna district—and orders authorizing the employment of a special revenue staff were issued in January. Those are all the items mentioned in the Government Order and I hope hon. Members will be satisfied that we are taking measures to carry out every one of the items mentioned. Of course we cannot carry out all of them at once because some of them require investigation first and in such cases we have an investigation staff on the spot.

"I am afraid that, as regards the Tungabhadra Project, we have not been able to make progress; the preliminary scheme has been worked out and preliminary estimates have been prepared; but we have to arrive at some arrangements with the neighbouring Governments of Bombay, Mysore and Hyderabad as regards the use of the water in the river and the submersion of land outside this Presidency. Until we come to some satisfactory arrangements with those Governments, it is not possible for us to proceed with the scheme which necessarily affects their interests as well as our own.

"As regards the Red Hills tank, measures for the improvement of 1 p. the supply channel have been carried out during the last two or three years, and during the last two seasons, I believe, we have been able to supply sufficient water for irrigation as well as for consumption in the Madras Ctiy. I hope the difficulties which were felt in previous years will not be felt in future.

"The improvement of the Buckingham canal is a matter which it is very difficult to deal with, as it is a losing investment and the

attempts which were made to deepen the canal have been unsuccessful. In certain parts it has been found that the silt oozed up in the canal as fast as it was removed and it was impossible to deepen it. I understand that in other provinces similar difficulties have arisen in connexion with certain channels, but the only remedy that I have heard of is that of providing the canals with a cement lining. I do not think, however, that we can possibly consider the adoption of such expensive measures here.

" The sanitary condition of the Buckingham canal and the Cooum in Madras, is a matter for my hon. friend the Minister to deal with. But I believe a great deal has been done in recent years in that direction. Much of the sewage which in former times used to go into the Cooum has now been diverted to the underground sewers and that work, I understand, is still proceeding. Whether anything can be done to improve matters in connexion with the discharge of sewage from Government offices or not, I do not know; but I am sure my hon. friend the Minister will consider the suggestions made by my hon. friend.

" My hon. Friend, Sir Parasuram Patro, referred to the Rushikulya project. That has been under investigation for some years, and if I remember rightly, it was given up in 1925; but it is again under investigation at the present time. One of the main difficulties in taking up the scheme is that we have to consider the vested interests of landholders and persons who have rights to irrigation lower down the river, and if we attempt to carry out the scheme now, I feel certain that an injunction would be received to stop our carrying it out, and we should not get any further. We have necessarily to be prepared to produce evidence in court to show that we shall not interfere materially with the rights to irrigation lower down the river. We are taking gauge-readings now, and I am afraid, that we cannot make much further progress with the project until these are complete.

" I think it was Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar who referred to the Bhavani project. I quite agree with him as to the desirability of getting the project sanctioned in time to enable us to use the special tools and plans which are now being used for the Mettur project. That has been my desire, and I have done all I could to push forward that scheme. I had a consultation with Engineers at Coimbatore some time ago; and at that time they considered that the scheme should be carried out as a wet-crop scheme. They have since changed their views, and we have recently received proposals for carrying it out as a dry crop scheme. (An hon. Member: ' Which portion is it? ') The lower. That is now under investigation, and the upper Bhavani scheme has been given up.

" Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar and Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar referred to the difficulties of the Palar irrigation system. I am afraid we have not got very much further in our negotiations with the Mysore Government; but the matter has certainly not been lost sight of. I may say that when Sir Mirza Ismail, the Diwan of Mysore, was last here in

14th March 1932] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

to come to some arrangement by which the information required by the Committee may be made available to them with a view to an early decision being arrived at."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Sir, I withdraw my motion in view of the reply given by the hon. the Revenue Member."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The hon. the President:—" I shall now put the main Demand to the vote of the House."

" The question is—

> '*That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 82,64,600 *under Demand VI—Irrigation (excluding Cauvery-Mettur Project)—Reserved* '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND VII—IRRIGATION—CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT—RESERVED.

* The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> '*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 75,83,400 *under Demand VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved* '."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Sir, I move—

> '*that the demand under this head be reduced by a sum of Rs.* 100 '

for the reasons stated on paper, viz., to discuss expenditure and probable reserve, but chiefly with a view to elicit information on one or two points. I really feel, Sir, that I have no very serious criticism to offer; but on the other hand, on a perusal of the Budget provisions made here and of the report of the Chief Engineer that is found printed in the Budget Memorandum itself, I feel I must say that in my opinion things seem to be improving in Mettur since the days we were offering our strenuous criticisms. I find, Sir, that the present Engineer-in-Chief—who is ' I believe ' the person responsible for it—has found it possible to reduce the total cost of the Project. I find that he anticipates that he would be able to complete the Project now for a total of Rs. 684·15 lakhs as against the revised estimate of Rs. 737·08 lakhs. I hope, Sir, that his anticipation is going to be realized and I believe there is some fair prospect of the anticipated savings of expenditure, being realized as he seems to be anxious by various measures of economy, to reduce the cost. I think, Sir, it is right that I should take this opportunity to congratulate the Government on what has been achieved, or what is going to be achieved in the future. I would just like, Sir, to ask some information because the information supplied is from all standpoints not very copious. I should like to know if Government hope to be able to work to their programme of completion. When is the dam likely to be completed and when will the whole project be completed ? Secondly, with reference to the question of irrigation I should like to know whether in

view of the altered condition of things,—on account of economic depression—the Government expect to get the whole area, the whole anticipated first crop extent. For, Sir, I believe there is a great deal of unwillingness among the ayacutdars to whom it was proposed to supply water, to take water and pay for it at the rate of Rs. 15 an acre. I believe, Sir, enquiries have been made on this matter, and I would like to know what exactly has happened and what is the conclusion the Government have come to. My own impression is that and I have often pressed this view upon the Government,—they are not likely to realize the anticipated first crop extent. In fact, before the scheme was sanctioned, I pressed on the Government the advisability of their going in largely for second crop development in Tanjore delta because it is less expensive than the first crop irrigation which they have been proposing. I believe the data on which the anticipations of second crop in the delta were calculated were entirely wrong. They were made by officers many years ago, and I believe, judging by our experience in other large irrigation schemes, the figures which they have taken as anticipated first-crop extensions in Tajore delta are totally wrong. However, they are practically committed to first-crop extensions and that means all the capital expenditure provided for in the estimate would have to be incurred. I should like to know from my hon. Friend whether they have made any enquiries about the possibility of their getting the anticipated first crop extent, and if not, what there scheme is for getting the whole water utilized.

" Then, Sir, about the works. I find from the remarks of the Chief Engineer that they do not propose having any irrigation under the canal system below the Agniyar. In that case, why are they building the Agniyar aqueduct at all? It is a costly work costing about a lakh. Why are they building that aqueduct, if they are not going to have irrigation beyond the Agniyar ?

" Then, Sir, under ' head works ' I find a provision of Rs. 60,600 under buildings, and it is stated that about Rs. 37,000 is going to be spent on electrict installations. I do not know where they are going to do it when quarters have already been built. I think they have all been installed with electric lights. Anyhow, I should like to know why the Government at this late stage are going in for further electric installations to the extent of Rs. 37,000.

" Then again, I should like to know exactly what the proportion of rubble masonry *to concrete is in the dam construction.* There has been a very old controversy about the use of either rubble masonry or concrete, and after a good deal of discussion, much against the wishes of *this House and certainly against the original provisions that* were made in the original estimates, in accordance with the decisions of the Inspector-General of Irrigation, Sir John Benton, the late Engineer-in-Chief, altered *the whole estimate (and the Government approved of it),* to concrete from rubble masonry.

" I believe that now in actual practice, they are using a very

14th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

have gone in for very expensive machinery for pouring concrete in all sorts of things and if they after all are going to go back and use a very considerable volume of rubble masonry, I should at least like to have information as to the respective volumes of rubble masonry and cement concrete they are going to use ultimately and whether they consider in view of the altered circumstances the enormous expenditure that has been incurred on special machinery would be fully justified. As I said at the outset, I am making these remarks more with a view to elicit information. I am glad I am in a position to congratulate the hon. the Revenue Member on what I consider to be a fairly satisfactory state of things obtaining at Mettur at present compared with the conditions some time ago."

* Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder :—" Mr. President, Sir, in subscribing my support to a cut in the grant moved in respect of Cauvery-Mettur Project, I would like to say a few words with regard to the supply of water from Mettur to the Salem district, for the purposes of irrigation. Sir, this question has been engaging the attention both of the Government and of the public for a considerably long time, but no satisfactory solution has yet been found out on this behalf. From the very early stages of the Mettur scheme, it has been urged in this Council to make this dam useful for the Salem and Coimbatore districts. But the Government, by some excuse or other, have been rejecting those requests and are not considering those representations in a favourable manner, fixing their eye only on Tanjore. As has been stated by me very often on the floor of this House the district of Salem is a dry area and is in acute need of proper irrigational facilities. This fact was also admitted by an official a fairly long time ago and he has even proved with facts and figures that Salem can be made a beautiful and well-irrigated area if only Government would take proper steps and a genuine desire in that direction. Even as early as 1871 or 1872—I do not exactly remember the particular year—the then Sub-Collector of this district has written a book by name ' Lefanus Manual ' of the Salem district. In that book he deals at length that the Salem district has got a number of good and productive irrigation sources, but that they have not been explored for want of funds at that time. Though more than 50 or 60 years have elapsed since then, Government have not taken the least care to redress the grievances of the people of Salem in the matter of irrigation. The ryots of my district have all along been eagerly expecting that at least some benefit might be given to them from this Mettur reservoir, but only disappointing replies are flung at their faces repeatedly. The Government have at least been pleased to have the courtesy and generosity to waste some money on a special staff which laboured for some time and prepared grounds for the same disappointing reply as was expected of them. During the last Budget session also, I stressed the necessity for the appointment of a committee of non-official engineer to investigate into the matter, but I am sorry to say that that suggestion has not been taken into consideration. I take this opportunity of once again urging on the Government the necessity for investigating the matter by the appointment of a committee as proposed

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder] [14th March 1932

by me. Even if that committee comes to the conclusion that the supply of water from Mettur dam to Salem district for the purposes of irrigation will be an impossible and undesirable task, I suggest to the Government to devise some new scheme or other in order to help the ryots, for which there is ample opportunity for the Government. In this connexion I may draw the pointed attention of the Government that at a place some 10 miles below the Mettur dam there is an old anicut which was washed away long long ago and if it is renewed now I am sure it will bring some tangible benefit to my district. So, Sir, I would urge on the Government if the supply of water to Salem from the Mettur dam is found utterly impossible and undesirable, to bestow their earnest attention for the realization of an anicut at the place I suggested above and to allow Salem district to enjoy at least this much good in irrigation. I would also urge that Government must take proper steps to keep the existing sources of irrigation on a proper basis. The one or two existing sources of irrigation from Cauvery in the border of this district are of no good and always keep the ryot in grave anxiety, as they have not got permanent structures. So, I strongly insist on the Government to see their way to put up a solid masonry structure to branch water from the Cauvery in order to afford an unfailing supply, and thus relieve the sufferings and anxieties of the people of those parts. Considering the dryness of the district and the repeated requests of the representatives of the people of the district, I in conclusion request the Government with all feelings I can command, to take it into their minds to help the district by giving water from Mettur for the purpose of irrigation or in the alternative to make some useful and appreciable arrangement, so that the people of Salem may get satisfied."

* Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai :—" Sir, I rise in support of the cut motion. In doing so, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the several important matters that vitally affect the landholders and ryots in the project area in the Tanjore district. As one who holds a large acreage in the affected area, I speak with a full sense of my responsibility.

" Sir, the object of the Cauvery-Mettur project is essentially—to be more accurate and to use the Government's own words—primarily to remedy the unsteady and uncertain supply of water for irrigation to the existing Cauvery delta of over a million acres of wet lands and secondarily or subsidiarily to supply water to as much new area as possible which has now been fixed at 301,000 acres of new ayacut in Pattukkottai, Mannargudi and Tanjore taluks.

" The project was thought of long ago and the same has been estimated to cost only about three crores in the beginning, but the estimate has been revised from time to time and nobody can give the actual cost with certainty even now. The Government have embarked upon this costly scheme without even consulting the ryots—the actual tax-payers as to their willingness to take water at the price the Government would have to fix. While every one was complacently ignorant of the intentions of the Government as to the rates of water-cess, last June G.O. No. 1244, dated 8th June 1931, was published in the *Fort St. George*

14th March 1932] [Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai]

Gazette and but for the daily newspapers which had the kindness to draw attention to the same, persons affected would still have been ignorant and the time for objections allowed to pass unnoticed. The ryots held conferences to formulate and consider their objections and grievances and forwarded them to the Government and further waited in deputation on the hon. the Revenue Member to explain the same. No communiqué or authoritative statement has yet been issued by the Revenue Member about the various doubts and difficulties expressed by the deputation to allay the fears of the public. Our first doubt and query about the project was, whether the Government had any intention of compelling the ryots to use the Cauvery water as against their will and whether existing sources of supply were to be interfered with in the new area. The hon. the Revenue Member stated that the use of the Cauvery water in the tract to be newly irrigated was optional and the ryots are to be given the freedom of exercising the option of refusal within a period of ten years and that thereafter the Government would not give him water even if the ryot wanted it. Further the hon. the Revenue Member stated that the existing sources of supply would not be interfered with and were not done so even now.

" After the deputation, mahazars signed by almost all the ryots of various villages have been sent to the Government expressing their unwillingness to take water at such prohibitively exorbitant rates but the Government are still going on with the project in spite of the same. This would introduce complications later and compulsion by indirect methods would be the result if for a small minority or against the wish of the ryots channels are dug and water taken to such villages. Existing sources of supply are already interfered with by the newly dug channels intercepting the flow of the surface drainage. In the absence of definite assurances on the part of the Government on the question of compulsory use, either direct or indirect, of the Cauvery water by the ryots and guaranteeing the existing sources of water-supply and their catchment area and channels leading thereto, it is better to cry a halt to the whole project in the taluks of Pattukkottai and Tanjore. 1-30 p.m.

" The proposed rates of water-cess are anything but practicable and are based merely on arithmetical calculations. Without considering the probable gain the ryot may be expected to get by the use of the Cauvery water, cess much higher than the actual land tax for the best lands in the existing delta is proposed to be levied. Further water is offered from September 15th and the ryot has none when he badly wants it, i.e., during July-August—Adi for raising seedlings. Mere water alone cannot change or improve the quality of the soil. No provision or allowance is made for the cost of conversion of dry into wet land. I would therefore urge the appointment of a mixed committee of enquiry composed of Members of this House to go into the whole question. The present rates practically deprived Inamdar and Zamindar of their favourable tenure and will subject them to a higher rate of taxation than the ryotwari ryots.

" The present rates of assessment make an invidious distinction between ryotwari wet tracts and non-ryotwari wet lands. Is it just that

[Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai] [14th March 1932

ryotwari lands are only promoted in their classification and the general run of taxation to be about Rs. 7 per acre, at the most, inclusive of the land tax whereas Rs. 10 per acre is to be charged for water alone in non-deltaic non-ryotwari areas. This is practically taking away the rights of the Zamindar and the Inamdar to the land revenue as per their title deeds. The rates as proposed are too high. Even in the ryotwari areas why should lands registered as dry be charged a heavy rate and not brought under the wet classification to which it would belong after the irrigation? The same is the case with non-ryotwari dry lands.

"One more point, which the hon. the Revenue Member said was the moot point, is left vague—the question of lands which are registered as dry by the Government but are actually irrigation wet lands at present with a private source or tank. The number of such villages is not inconsiderable and what is to happen to them?

"Sir, in answer to my interpellation, the hon. the Revenue Member has stated that in view of the fact that this House had approved of both the original and revised estimates of the Mettur Scheme, the Government did not intend to consult this House before passing final orders giving effect to the rates proposed in G.O. No. 1244, dated 8th June 1931. No doubt, Sir, on the occasion referred to by the hon. the Revenue Member, the Member from Tanjore had agreed to the levy of Rs. 15 per acre. But, Sir, an examination of the official report of the proceedings will show that the agreement by the Member from Tanjore to the rate proposed was dependent upon two conditions. Then, Sir, the price of paddy in the Pattukkottai taluk was about Rs. 4 per kalam and it was also thought that an early kuruvai crop would be raised with the Cauvery water. Both these conditions are now absent and further the world economic crisis has changed the entire outlook and any chances of a good return for the labours of the agriculturist are receding further and further.

"Considering the inequalities and injustices which the proposed rates in G.O. No. 1244 perpetuate, I would urge that the Government ought to take this hon. House into their confidence and after a full debate decide upon the rates of water tax in the new area with the report of an Enquiry Committee before it."

The House then adjourned for lunch.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Diwan Bahadur S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I wish to say a few words in support of the cut motion which is now under discussion. Sir, you know it is an unfortunate thing that Salem district is not going to be benefited by the Cauvery-Mettur Project even though the project lies within the Salem district. On more than one occasion, representations were made to the Government on the floor of the House that water should be supplied to Salem district also for irrigation purposes. It would have been fair and just that Salem district also should have been included in the scheme when it was originated; but I do not know why it was not done so. I do not believe in the statement that it is not possible to take water to Salem district and it will be

14th March 1932] [Mr. S. Ellappa Chettiyar]

prohibitive. There is nothing in the world that is impossible. If there is a will, there is a way. If Government is solicitous about it, it can be made possible. As regards the assessment, the people are willing to pay even Rs. 29 or Rs. 30 per acre and they have given an undertaking to that effect also. I should say that it is unjust and unfair not to give water to Salem district which badly required water and to give it to Tanjore which is already well off in the irrigation facilities. I request Government to reconsider the matter and see that something is done to give water to Salem district also from the Mettur Project."

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, wanted to have certain information regarding the Cauvery-Mettur Project. He began by expressing his appreciation of the services of the Engineer-in-Chief for the care with which he has safeguarded the Government's revenues. I have great pleasure in associating myself with this appreciation of his work. I know from personal knowledge that the Engineer-in-Chief has always kept in view the need for economy.

" We hope to have some irrigation under the Dam this year in July and there will be a full irrigation under it in September 1934. But it will be very difficult to say whether the whole of the 301,000 acres that will be irrigated under it at Rs. 15 per acre. Experience elsewhere shows us that when once water is brought into a neighbourhood, there is a general desire to take advantage of the facilities for irrigation; I may however mention that the ryots in Trichinopoly who would be benefited if their lands were brought under the Mettur scheme by the extension of the high-level channel, have expressed their willingness to pay Rs. 18 an acre. Under the Kattalai scheme which is now proceeding, about 19,000 acres of land are expected to be irrigated, but the whole area which could be commanded by the high-level channel is about 50,000 acres. At present, however, the extension is not under consideration as we are giving the Tanjore ryots the first opportunity of using this water. The reasons for not carrying out further works below the Agniyar aqueduct is due to the fact that as a result of the enquiries of the Special Officer as to the actual area which can be included in the ayacut after making allowances required for communal purposes, etc. It appears that 301,000 acres of irrigable land can be obtained without extending the channel further than the Agniyar. Should these ryots however refuse the irrigation, the channels can then be extended beyond the Agniyar aqueduct.

" The quantities of the masonry and concrete in the Dam according to the latest estimates of the total cost of the Dam are as follows; the number of units in masonry is expected to be 387,848·95 units and in concrete 152,808·65 units. The towers are useful not only for placing concrete on the Dam but also for placing mortar. Their use in this respect becomes greater, the higher the Dam rises. Up to the end of February, about five-eighths of the work has been completed; but it is difficult to say exactly on what date it will be finished or whether the cost would exceed the estimate or not as we still depend to some extent on the foundations which are not yet completely finished and

[Sir Archibald Campbell] [14th March 1932

also to some extent on weather conditions. But, the progress during the last few months has been very steady and satisfactory.

" An hon. Member wanted to know why the allotment for installation of electricity in quarters has increased to Rs. 37,000; the explanation is that the charges under electric current have been increased from 9 pies to 1 anna 3 pies. I believe that this covers the cost of current for all buildings in the camp, but I am not quite sure on this point.

" Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai referred to the draft rules regarding the levy of water-cess which have been published. A certain time was given for the receipt of objections. Final orders of them will be issued in the light of the recommendations of the Board of Revenue and the representations that have been made in this House. I have myself received deputations and the representations that have been received will be very carefully considered before any orders are passed.

" Reference was again made to the possibility of using water from the Mettur reservoir in the Salem district. This matter has been considered on various occasions. The scheme to which an hon. Member referred as the Narinjipet Anicut was expected to irrigate about 27,000 acres in the Salem district. The estimates were prepared in 1904 but the project was dropped on the suggestion of Sir John Benton, the then Inspector-General for Irrigation, on the ground of the poverty of the soil, the heavy cost of reclamation and the high costs of works required the tortuous nature of the proposed alignment and the liability of the channel to breaching and silting. A high rate of water-cess would have to be levied under that system and to make the work productive it was estimated that the rate would have to be Rs. 29·5 per acre. The matter was again investigated later on representations made in this House and elsewhere and in 1930 the Government passed an order dealing with this scheme at length finally deciding that it was not possible to carry out any of these schemes.

" I think, Sir, I have covered all the points that have been raised during the debate. The work has been proceeding very steadily during the past year and I believe the work will be completed in good time in spite of the unexpected floods that occurred in the earlier stages."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

2-45 p.m. Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'That the allotment of Rs. 75,83,400 for Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project, be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" My object in doing so is to criticize the necessity of retaining too many Deputy Collectors and special officers for acquisition work in connexion with the Mettur Irrigation Project. Now, Sir, from what I heard from the hon. Revenue Member five-eighths of the dam is completed and I think he also expects some irrigation under the dam to take place in the next year. That being the case, and also in view of the fact that most of the acquisitions have been completed there is no more necessity to retain 10 or 12 Deputy Collectors as acquisition officers for the Mettur Project. I understand, Sir, from reliable sources

14th March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

that the Deputy Collectors there have not work for more than two or three hours a day, and even that work could be efficiently discharged by Tahsildars or Special Tahsildars or Deputy Tahsildars. In some cases the acquisitions seem to be for half a rupee, for Rs. 2, for Rs. 3, for Rs. 4 and so forth. For that I don't see why there should be so much waste of public money and public time by employing ten or twelve Deputy Collectors. I thought Government would have taken action previously, but hitherto they have not taken any notice of this waste of public money and public time. So I suggest an inquiry to be held and the number of Deputy Collectors be reduced, and if necessary all the Deputy Collectors may be put on other duty and one or two Tahsildars be put on this work. I want this economy should be effected in these days of retrenchment."

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Mover of this motion spoke as if the acquisition is necessary only for the land which is to be covered by the water in the tank. As a matter of fact these Deputy Collectors are employed in the acquisition of land in the delta, which is required for the main channels as well as the distributory channels."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" I understand most of it is complete."

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" My friend says most of it is completed. My information is that the length of the channels still remaining to be acquired is 1,537½ miles. Further we have to bear in mind that Government have undertaken to provide channels for blocks of 150 acres and to acquire lands for channels to be dug by ryots for blocks of 25 acres. The annual outturn of a Special Deputy Collector for acquisition was 40 miles up to November last. We have taken measures to see that that outturn is increased to 60 miles this year. If we can manage to keep up to that standard for the rest of the system from the Grand Anicut we have to engage ten Special Deputy Collectors for 2½ years. We have now ten Deputy Collectors, and we hope to complete an acquisition of 842½ miles in 1932–33, leaving about 695 miles to be completed in 1933–34. I may assure hon. Members that Government will not employ more Deputy Collectors than necessary.

" I do not think the proposal to employ a cheaper staff is financially a sound proposition. It requires great care to make a good land acquision officer, for he should be very careful to see that Government do not pay too high a price for the lands acquired. For this purpose we have specially to select Deputy Collectors in whom we have confidence, and we cannot employ a cheaper staff."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

'*That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 75,83,400 under Demand VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved.*' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND VIII—HEADS OF PROVINCES AND EXECUTIVE COUNCILS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

> '*That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,84,600 under Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved.*' "

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move the second cut motion standing in my name, namely—

> '*That the allotment of Rs. 2,84,600 under Demand VIII—Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved, be reduced by Rs.* 100'

to speed up the inauguration of further instalment of Reforms. My object in doing so is to state that the ruthless repression that is followed in the country is not the way to meet the situation that has arisen. But the only and correct way to meet that situation is by granting the National Demand. In doing so, I wish, Sir, not to enter into a rambling discussion, but only to state a few points. Those who have been following the trend of events since the commencement of the Statutory Commission can clearly see that public opinion is unanimous that a full measure of Self-Government, i.e., Provincial Autonomy together with an All-India Federation, must be granted as early as possible, that there should be no shilly-shallying, no half-hearted move or half-way move in the matter. There may be difference of opinion amongst a few people here and there, amongst a few political parties here and there, but as I said, the public opinion all over the country is unanimous that this demand should be satisfied. No doubt, Sir, the Secretary of State in his speech in the House of Commons justified the excesses and the ruthless repression that has been followed in this country of late. It might be he is unaware of the full facts, incidents and happenings in this country. Of course, it has been debated on the floor of this House about the recent Police excesses; and even the hon. the Finance Member had to admit that the discussion that took place here represented the feeling of all people, even that of the sober-minded citizens outside this House. That is prefectly true. If that is so, if according to the trite maxim that responsible Government must rest on the consent and on the co-operation of the people, then the only way to secure that co-operation is by satisfying their legitimate political aspirations. So, there is no reason why this demand should not be granted to this country. It may be that the Government and the powers above might think that because they are able to reduce to a state of calm the present discontent by the aid of violent methods they adopted, they can maintain that situation for ever. I submit, Sir, this is mere illusion. It may be that for a time it may produce a superficial calm, but all the same the feeling is there; it goes deep down and it may break out at any moment. So that if you really want to secure peace it can only be by granting the

14th March 1932] [Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu]

people's legitimate demand. It is too well known that Government went so far as even to deprive the ordinary citizen of his elementary rights of freedom of speech and freedom of action. If this process is to go on, it will tend even the law-abiding citizens to join the ranks of the discontented. I wish that that state of things does not come to pass. I therefore think that in the interests of good Government and to give relief to the political tension that is prevailing to-day Provincial Autonomy with an All-India Federation is the only cure and should be inaugurated at once. Of course, it is suggested that it is not such an easy matter and so, it will take some time, details have to be worked out and so on and so forth. All that may be true. Yet, I have to maintain 'where there is a will there is a way.' When Government wanted to suppress the civil disobedience movement, they had recourse to emergency legislation, and ordinances were passed in no time. Similarly if the Government does not want to adopt a dilatory process and postpone this matter, if the British Parliament really wishes to confer full Self-Government, they can take the matter in all earnestness and devise measures to inaugurate the new Reforms in India at least in a year. I hope all hon. Members of this House will agree with me in the expression of opinion that Provincial Autonomy and an All-India Federation should be established in the country as early as possible."

* Dr. P. Subbarayan:—" Mr. President, Sir, I think it is a well-known fact that I have already asked the leave of the House for a day to discuss the constitutional problem as well as the Reports of the Government of Madras and the Provincial Franchise Committee on the way the franchise ought to be devised for the province. I think it is a most unsatisfactory way of bringing up a discussion on constitutional reforms by means of cut-motions on Demands for Grants, as it is well-known that nothing regarding constitutional reforms is carried even if the House agrees to the cut motion. I think every Member knows it. Even if we carry the present cut motion and reduce the Demand by Rs. 100, we do not really endorse the opinion put forward by the Mover. I think the motion as put forward by my Friend does not refer to All-India Federation although he mentioned it in his speech. As far as it is put down it only refers to Provincial Autonomy. (A voice: 'He refers to cut motion 174.') That I think is even more unsatisfactory, because speeding up inauguration of Reforms may mean anything. It may mean merely expediting the transfer of certain subjects. You may explain it; but the motion does not carry with it the object. Therefore, I think that it will be better that Government consider the suggestion that a day ought to be given for a discussion to bring a resolution so that it may be brought home to the authorities both in India and England what the opinion of this House is on the future Constitutional Reforms in this country. Considering these circumstances, I recommend that all Members of the Party which I have the honour to lead should not take part in this debate." 3 p.m.

* Mr. N. Siva Raj:—" Mr. President, I really do not know what exactly the position is that I ought to take in regard to this motion

which has been moved by my Friend, Mr. Badeti Venkataramayya Nayudu. He asks for a speedier inauguration of the further instalment of Reforms. Vague as the proposition is it certainly suggests the idea of speed. My observation in this connexion will be that whatever may be the speed, the speed ought to be consistent with safety and in my opinion whatever may be the nature of the Reforms that are granted tomorrow to India, they ought certainly to be such as would ensure a stable and steady administration without which I am sure the many rights and privileges that are sought to be granted not only to the majority communities but also to the minority communities will be mere farce and cannot be enjoyed by them. Sir, with regard to the nature of the Reforms whether it ought merely to be Provincial Autonomy in the first instance to be followed later on by an All-India Federation or whether it is to be Provincial Autonomy with immediate Central Responsibility as an intermediate stage between Provincial Autonomy and All-India Federation, I on my behalf and on behalf of the Members of the depressed classes who are here am to state that we are not going to stand in the way of India getting any Reforms she can in the present state of the country. We are not going to throw any obstacle in the way of Indians achieving freedom for India. But what we are anxious is that any scheme of Reforms that are to be introduced in the future ought to make provision safeguarding our rights along with the rights of other communities which are situated in a position, similar to ours. The view that we always took and that we even now take is that in any scheme of Reforms our position ought to be safeguarded. We will not give our consent to schemes which will deny our legitimate rights. We are prepared to put up what fight we can against any constitution which is not going to recognize our legitimate rights. We have already seen, and have the fear, that both the majority communities and the Governments of the various Provinces are trying to curtail our legitimate share which we think we ought to get in the new Reforms. I might instance the case of the Madras Government which even after the Madras Franchise Committee has recommended for our community a number of seats upon the population basis in the Provincial Legislature has reduced that number to a much lower figure. On the other hand, we feel that when once the principle of weightage has been conceded on the ground of weakness of certain minorities, we ought also to get weightage having regard to the undoubtedly helpless position of our community. So the view that we have taken with regard to any Reforms of the future is that our position ought to be safeguarded. We will certainly oppose any Reforms which do not grant our claims."

* Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig:—" Mr. President, Sir, speaking on this subject I feel called upon to offer a few remarks on the impending Constitutional changes. I really could not understand why the Opposition should have thought of keeping out from this discussion without really knowing what the sense of this Council would be. In view, Sir, of the consensus of opinion amongst the different sections of the peoples of India and the unanimous and universal demand made by them, both

14th March 1932] [Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig]

inside the Round Table Conference and outside it, it is too late in the day to think of any other sort of Reform than full Provincial Autonomy and real Responsibility in the Centre with safeguards to the minorities, any other safeguards with regard to Finance, Defence and Foreign Affairs that may become necessary, being always for the benefit of this country and only transitory. These changes, which would lay the foundation of a democratic Government, it is expected, Sir, will remedy the present defects of diarchical form of Government.

"While on this subject, Sir, I cannot help offering a few remarks with reference to the Muslims of this Presidency and indicate as briefly as I can their apprehensions. An impression has gained ground, Sir, of late that neither the Government nor the other sister communities have fully realized the singular position of Muslims in this Presidency and they feel that they have not been treated as their peculiar case demanded. Several Acts have been passed by the Reformed Council and several executive orders have been passed by Government which, unfortunately, confirm this view. In its enthusiasm for democratizing local bodies, the Legislative Council thought that it was conferring a favour by reserving certain seats in the local bodies on joint electorate system. Although there are provisions in the Act, Sir, to reserve seats according to the importance of the communities, I can point out several instances where a solitary seat has been reserved to Muslims in the local bodies consisting of 52 members and whenever protests were raised Government and other communities referred us to the percentage of our population. The same is the case with regard to the services. This, I submit, Sir, is a wrong attitude. The Muslims in the Province, Sir, stand on a totally different footing from the other minorities, women, and persons claiming special interests. It is needless for me to say, Sir, that whereas other communities have got either religion, culture or civilization common with the other caste Hindus the Muslims have none. The hope of a community or nation depends upon its culture and religion, which must needs be fostered and developed. It is this realization of political importance of Muslims, Sir, that was really responsible for the terms of the famous 'Lucknow Pact' solemnly entered into between the Hindus and the Muslims by which Muslims were given 15 per cent of representation in the Madras Legislative Council. If I remember right this has been referred to with approval in the Nehru Report.

"I may also remind the House, Sir, that the Minority Pact of the Round Table Conference, granted Mussalmans of this Presidency 15 per cent of representation in the Council. Moreover, Sir, it has now become a recognized principle, that the minorities must be granted weightage, in order that their representation might be effective. It is this principle, Sir, that is responsible for the granting of eight seats to the Hindus (the minority community) in the North-west Frontier provinces out of 40, although the Hindus are not more than 5 per cent in that province. The Muhammadans though they form 97 per cent and odd of the population have been granted only 20 out of 40 seats. Therefore, Sir, looked at from this point of view, the recommendations

3-1 p.m.

of the Madras Franchise Committee are, to say the least, very surprising and alarming. Nor are the recommendations made by the Madras Government in any way satisfactory. It passes one's understanding why the number of seats for special interests, for instance, the landholders, has doubled itself, and the number of seats for Mussalmans and Adi-Dravidas has been curtailed. It must be clear to anyone, Sir, that Mussalmans cannot be elected from special constituencies, nor can they avail themselves of the women's seats, not to speak of seats for other interests. In these circumstances, Sir, it is really strange that the Franchise Committee and the Madras Government should recommend only 21 seats for Muslims in a Council of 210 or 220 members. I may not be understood, Sir, to say that I oppose special representation to women or the landholders. What I urge is this. The number of special interests, and of women should not affect the legitimate 15 per cent representation of Mussalmans in this Province.

"Sir, it is needless for me to pursue the topic any further. Suffice it to say this: let not the Government or any community do any act which will cause an apprehension in the minds of Mussalmans that their interests have not been adequately safeguarded in any Reforms that may come hereafter. In conclusion, Sir, I may state in clear and unequivocal terms that no reform of the constitution would be acceptable to the Mussalmans of this province which will have the effect of undermining the importance of Mussalmans and of endangering their culture and religion. In this connexion, I may point out that the retrenchment proposals of the Madras Government are at variance with those of the Central Government; whereas the Central Government thought it proper and just that no retrenchment proposal should affect the proportion of Mussalmans in the services. The Government of Madras, departed from the India Government Communiqué with the result that the few Muslims, who were in service in the lower rungs, have been disbanded. Such acts on the part of the Government and the sister communities has created alarm among the Muslims. Sir, we are on the threshold of new Reforms and I want to make it clear, on behalf of the Mussalmans of the Presidency, that we cannot allow any Reform to fructify itself which will have the effect of undermining our importance and prejudicing our rights with the same emphasis I wish to state, Sir, that we are as anxious as our Hindu brethren for the freedom of the country, which is our birthright and for ending the struggle between the Government and the governed."

* Mr. F. E. James:—"Sir, the cut motion which we are now discussing to-day for a reduction in the grant by Rs. 100 is in order to stress our desire that the inauguration of further Reforms should be speeded up. I am not a little surprised at the attitude of silence taken up by the Opposition and it makes me a little suspicious too. The community which I represent has spoken on the attitude which we should take up unreservedly for speeding on with the Reforms; and I am sorry to find that Dr. Subbarayan and his Party, for some reason or another, have not thought fit to take part in this debate. I can interpret their non-participation as showing their reluctance to assist

14th March 1932] [Mr. F. E. James]

in the work of speeding up the Reforms. (Interruption.) I am glad to hear the assent from Dr. Subbarayan's following. But Dr. Subbarayan himself does not say what he should say and give us his real views. I gather from the Leader of the Opposition that he is anxious that the whole discussion should proceed on what he terms a comprehensive resolution. Well, if a comprehensive resolution is brought before the House in the terms of some of the comprehensive resolutions which I have been permitted to see, even at the end of a week's discussion this House would not find unanimity on a single point, for example, either on the question of separate electorates or the question of depressed class representation or of special representation or as to what the number of seats that each community should occupy in the new Councils under the Reforms. It seems to me, Sir, that we have got to decide as to whether we are going to discuss the urgency of proceeding with the Reforms or whether we are going to leave everything to be discussed in the Committee, such as the question of distribution of seats for representation of different interests, etc. As far as we are concerned, much work has been done by the Local Franchise Committee, and though I may not agree with all the details, the Committee's recommendations on the whole represent a fair adjustment of views in regard to representation in the Provincial Council. One thing I am anxious that this House should emphasize now is that it is desirable that there should be, as quickly as possible, an advance in the matter of Constitutional Reforms. Our community has held for some time that the obvious advance which could be made and should possibly have been made some time ago, is advance in the direction of full Responsible Government in the Provinces. We had hesitated to say that openly in the past months because we know that if we take up that view it might be misconstrued by those whose eyes are set upon the Reforms at the Centre. As things have developed in the past few weeks, however, it makes it essential for us to state quite definitely what our point of view is. Some of the Members of the House might have seen the recent speech delivered by Mr. Villiers, the President of the European Association at Calcutta, and I should like to say from my place here that as far as we in Madras are concerned we unhesitatingly support his plea that Provincial Autonomy should be granted as soon as possible and that it should be regarded only as a first step towards the ultimate realization of the ideals that were discussed at the Round Table Conference. I do not want this House to be under the impression that when we say we want Provincial Autonomy we want to rest there. We are as sincere as any other community in this country in the pursuit of Federation with Responsibility. We have pledged ourselves to that aim and we do not want to go back upon that. We do realize as practical people that the first step which we must take before that can be realized as a practical thing is the constitution in the Provinces of Responsible Government.

"I have always said that one of the weaknesses of the Round Table Conference was that whereas the States Governments were represented, and the British Government was represented by parliamentary representatives, there were no representatives from British India who had in

[Mr. F. E. James] [14th March 1932

any sense represented the Provincial Governments. There are, of course, obvious reasons why it could not be so. At any rate that was admitted in the constitution of that Round Table Conference itself. What I should like to say is that a very early realization of a constitution of Responsible Government in the Provinces is necessary and that the work of implementing the Federation should be carried on by a constituent assembly of representatives from the States and from the new Provincial Governments speaking with all the authority behind them of the new responsible ministries. I believe that in such an Assembly many of the difficulties that are in the way of Federation might be surmounted. This may not be particularly germane to the immediate issue. But, Mr. President, I am anxious to explain that when we pledge ourselves to a proposition for immediate provincial autonomy, we wedded ourselves with equal force to continue the work for a Federation with Responsibility, subject of course to those necessary safeguards for the transitional period which have been already defined in the proceedings of the Round Table Conference. May I make one further plea on my own behalf and on behalf of my European friends that the one solution of the present impasse is the grant of further responsibility?

10 a. "There is no other way as far as the Provinces are concerned. I trust that the subsequent debates in this House will not degenerate into plea of this interest or that interest, of this community or that community. We have our own plea, but I do not propose to make that plea. What I do ask this House is to say in no uncertain voice that, as far as Madras is concerned, we are ready for the fullest possible measure of Provincial Autonomy. In consonance with the new electoral rules as a result of the Franchise Committee's Report, this Province should lead the way in constituting a sound and progressive Government which will be untrammelled by the present Provincial system and which will be free to develop itself within its own autonomous powers, to lead the people of this Province to a larger liberty and a larger life."

Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

"தலைவர் அவர்களே! இந்தியாவுக்கு சுயாட்சி வேண்டுமென்று பல வருடங்களாய்க்கேட்டு வருகிறோம். இப்பொழுதும் அவ்விஷயத்தைப்பற்றியே எனக்கு முன்பாகப் பல அங்கத்தினர்களும அவ்விஷயத்தையே வெகு அழகாகப் பேசினார்கள். இதனால் சுயாட்சி வேண்டுமென்பது எவருக்குமே அபிப்பிராய பேதம் இருப்பதாய்த் தெரியவில்லை. ஆனால் ஆட்சி பெறும் முறையிலே மட்டும் அபிப்பிராய பேதங்கள் அதிகம் வெளிவிட்டு தடை செய்வதாய்த் தெரிகின்றது. சிலர் மாகாண வாரியாக சுயாட்சியடைய விரும்புகின்றனர். சிலர் எல்லா மாகாணங்களுக்கும் பூர்ண சுதந்தரத்துடன் கூடிய, அதாவது மத்திய சர்க்காருக்குக் கீழ்பட்ட (Central Responsible Government) சுயாட்சி வேண்டுமென்கிறார்கள். முதலில் இச்சென்னை மாகாணத்துக்கு கொடுத்துவிட்டு பிறகு மற்ற மாகாணங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கலாமென்கிறார்கள். பேச்சில் காலம் போய் விடுகிறது. சில வருடங்களுக்கு முன்னர் நாம் பிரிட்டிஷ் காங்கிரஸ் கமிட்டியின் மூலமாய் நமது அபிப்பிராயத்தை ஆங்கிலேயருக்கு அறிவிக்க வெகுவாய்ப் பாடுபட்டோம். இந்தியாவில் பேசி பயனில்லை என்று லண்டன் மகா நகரின் கண் பிரிட்டிஷ் பிரஜைகளுக்கு மத்தியில் நாமே சென்று நமது உறிமையைப்பற்றி பயிரங்கப்படுத்த

14th March 1932] [Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma]

வேண்டுமென்று பேசி வந்தோம். ஆனால் அப்பொழுது ஒன்றுமே நடவாமல் போயிற்று. இப்பொழுது வட்டமேஜை மகாநாடு என்னும் முறையிலே, ஒரு முறைக்கு இரு முறை நம்முடைய அரசாக்ஷியினர் முன்னிலையிலும், பல தேச வாசிகள் முன்னிலையிலும், இந்தியாவின் சுய ஆட்சியைப்பற்றி பேசப்பட்டன.

"ஆனால் பேசின பேச்சுகளில் நமக்குள் ஒற்றுமை இல்லை என்று வெளி ஆயிற்று. முகம்மதியர் தங்கள் உரிமையைப் பெரிதாய்ப் பாவித்து போதிய அளவு ஸ்தானங்கள் (**seats**) தங்களுக்குக் கொடுக்க வேண்டுமென்றார்கள். ஆதித்திராவிடர்களோ தங்களுக்கும் அப்படியே வேண்டுமென்று வற்புறுத்தினார்கள். ஒதுக்கப்பட்ட வேறு சில வகுப்பினர்களும் தற்காப்பிலே தங்களையும் கவனித்துக் கொள்ளுங்கள் என்கிறார்கள். இங்ஙனம் கேட்பதில் முழுவதுமே தவறு என்றும் நின்ற நிலையிலும் நாம் சொல்வதற்கில்லை. இன்னும் நமக்குள் ஜாதிகளும், மதங்களும், சண்டைச் சச்சரவுகளும், ஒற்றுமைக்கு விரோதமான வழக்க பழக்கங்களும் இருந்தே இருக்கின்றன. மேனாட்டிலும் இம்மாதிரி இருக்கலாம். என்றாலும் ஆட்சிபுரிவோர் தப்பித்துக் கொள்வதற்கும், சாக்குப் போக்கு சொல்வதற்கும், எவ்வழியிலும் இறங்காமல் தாமதித்து இருப்பதற்கும், வழியை நாமே செய்து வருகிறோம். இந்திய தாயின் மக்களாகிய நாம் எல்லோரும் நமக்குள் நாமே சமாதானம் செய்து கொண்டு, தற்காலத்திலே பொருந்திய வழியில்வரும் சுயாட்சியையும் பெற்றுக் கொண்டு முழுப்பொறுப்பு ஆட்சியும் பெறும் வழியிலே வேலை செய்ய முன் வர வேண்டும். கவர்மெண்டுடன் நாம் ஒற்றுமைப்படவேண்டும். ஆங்கிலேயர்களும் நல்லவர்களே. நம்மை கண் விழிக்கச் செய்தவர்களும் அவர்களே. **Lord Macaulay** சொன்னது பொய்யல்ல. ஆங்கிலேயப் படிப்பு, சரித்திர முற்போக்கு, எழுச்சி, ஆங்கிலேயர்களுக்கே கெடுதியாகும் என்றபோது அதற்கு பதிலாக **Macaulay** அதுவே சந்தோஷம் அச்சமயம் தங்களுக்கும் தங்கமான காலமென்று குறிப்பிட்டார். நம்மை ஆள்வோர் முற்றும் அறியாதவர்களல்ல. **A.O. Hume, Sir William Wedderburn, Lord Ripon, Lord Irwin,** முதலிய ஆங்கிலேய கனவான்கள் நமது முற்போக்கைக் கவனிக்கின்றார்கள். நாம் சும்மா இராது வேலை செய்ய வேண்டும். பழய குருட்டு நம்பிக்கைகளிலும், ஜாதிமத பேதங்களிலும், சற்று நாம் இப்பொழுது பேதப்பட்டு வருவதுபோல அரசியல் ஞானத்திலும், சுதந்தரத்திலும், மாறுபட வேண்டும். எல்லோருமே சமாதானத்தில் வேலை செய்ய முயல வேண்டும். இச்சமயத்தில் பெண்களும் கல்வியறிவு இன்றி தூங்கவிடப்படாது, பெண்களை ஆண்களும் நல்ல வழியில் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். பெண்களும் தங்களைத் தாங்களே முற்படுத்த வேண்டும். அறிவையர் எல்லோருமே ஞானாபிவிர்த்தி அடைந்து நாட்டிற்கு நன்மை அளிக்கும் பலவழியில் வேலை செய்வதாயின் சுயாட்சி வந்ததற்கு ஒப்பே ஆகும். தாய் பாஷையில் கல்வி எங்கும் வியாபியாதபடியால் பெண்கள் தேறுதலினின்று ஜெயம்பெருவது சாமான்யமல்ல. ஜெயம் பெறும் காலம் வரும்வரை பெண்களுக்கு சில ஸ்தானங்கள் சட்ட சபையார் ஒதுக்கிவைப்பது முக்கியமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகின்றேன்."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" Sir, I cannot help feeling that my hon. Friend Mr. James was less than fair to Dr. Subbarayan when he interpreted his speech as one leading to doubt. I have heard the speech with as much care, I believe, as Mr. James and I must say that Dr. Subbarayan was even more anxions for the acceleration of the Reforms than, perhaps, the mover himself. Some of us may remember that Mr. Gandhi himself expressed at one time, that he was prepared to accept Provincial Autonomy, even if there was no corresponding advance in the Centre. At the Round Tahle Conference when he found that the kind of Provincial Autonomy which the British Government offered was not real, he said at once that he did not come for that sort of autonomy. For my part, I say that the administration carried on under a system

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [14th March 1932

where, without responsibility at the Centre, there is a so-called autonomy in the Provinces, it is something like running a cart on two wheels, of which one is free to be moved as one pleases, while the other is more or less fixed. The result will be that though the free wheel may move, it shall have to move, round and round the other. The granting of Provincial Autonomy without responsibility at the Centre is something like that. I do not think there can be real freedom for the Provinces to do as they like. Responsibility at the Centre with the usual safeguards with regard to Army, Navy and Air Force together with full provincial Autonomy is the minimum demand of our Leaders; if there is to be no responsibility at the Centre, I think we should rather be willing to go on suffering without further Reforms than have a barren kind of Provincial Autonomy, with a set-back for a long time to the Reforms really worth having.

"Sir, this question has been engaging the consideration of the country not since yesterday or the day before but for a long time. I think that, in the year 1924 the Representatives of the Councils, not only of Madras but of all the other Provinces in India, met in conference and came to the deliberate conclusion that they should have full Provincial Autonomy together with responsibility at the Centre, with adequate safeguards. That position has not changed. We would be false to those Leaders who have been working strenuously without hope of any reward, if we accept this resolution. I hope this House will not betray those faithful workers of our land."

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" I must start with the complaint of the vagueness of the cut motion. The fear that I entertained is more than justified by the nature and scope of the discussion that has taken place in this House. The Mover of this cut motion has breathed sentiments with which I am sure every hon. Member in this House, at least the elected Member, will whole-heartedly agree. When moving the cut motion he said that he was expressing the opinion of the whole House when he pleaded for full Swaraj. With those sentiments I personally agree, not only in my personal capacity but also as the representative of a cause which I have taken upon myself to voice in this House, viz., the cause of Labour. I have in this connexion taken the consent of my hon. Colleague, Mr. Basu Dev, that he also stands for the fullest possible measure of Responsible Government not only in the Provinces but also in the Centre. I therefore feel that I should make one or two statements with special reference to the Labour interests. The recommendations made both by the Provincial Franchise Committee and by the Madras Government regarding representation of Labour are rather queer. While we have under the recommendations about eight seats for Commercial interests we have according to the Provincial Franchise Committee's recommendation three seats for Labour and which number of seats have been further whittled down by the benevolent Madras Government. For one moment I am not complaining that Labour should find its voice heard in this Council only by representation of this nature. When adult suffrage for which we have always been fighting for

14th March 1932] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

is granted, we shall not require special representation, because we are sure to get in through the open door of election. As only about 10 per cent of the adult population is to be enfranchised we felt that in the special circumstances of our (labour) condition some measure of reservation was necessary. But for that reason, merely because Labour is getting two or three seats, we are not saying along with other communities such as the depressed classes and other minority communities that we shall oppose all reforms until and unless adequate safeguards are given for protecting their ' elementary rights '. I would say that special protection claimed for the minority communities is not a ground for opposing the grant of Reforms. If the Reforms are unsatisfactory it is better to reform the Reforms and to see that such power to change and create our own constitution is conceded at once. It is in that spirit I am appealing to them.

" After all, I think I am right in saying that the members of the depressed classes are only half brothers of labour, because in the labour ranks we count them by hundreds and millions. Therefore, when we are fighting for Labour representation and when we are fighting for further Reforms we are fighting the cause of depressed classes also. 3-45 p.m.

" This takes me on to the very interesting speech delivered by Mr. James. His lamentation that the Leader of the Opposition and his party have decided not to participate in this debate reminds me of the tears shed by the wolf at the sufferings of the lamb, exposed to the weather. Sir, the attitude of the Leader of the Opposition is understandable and perfectly comprehensible. Because he has said that there is no question either of speeding up of the Reforms or of thinking of instalments of reform; the one thing the United Nationalist Party stands pledged for is the attainment of full liberty and the grant of complete responsibility. (Hear, hear.) I have only one more word to say with regard to the European attitude and their talk about the grant of immediate Provincial Autonomy. We have heard this phrase so often, Sir, that we are apt to forget that it has never been defined with such particularity as it deserves. After all what is full Provincial Responsibility? The connotation of that phrase varies with different parties and individuals. If ' Provincial Autonomy ' for which my hon. Friend, Mr. James, put in so eloquent a plea means only the Provincial Autonomy of the nature that was talked about and discussed in the Round Table Conference and the various other Conference Committees, I would say that such Provincial Autonomy is only an empty autonomy. It is like the shell with the kernel either not developed or eaten away. I for one would strongly oppose any move for the granting of full Provincial Autonomy or empty Provincial Autonomy unless it is also simultaneously accompanied by the grant of Central Responsibility. These bickerings for a larger share in the Government of the country will be there till both the majority and the minority communities realize that they all together form the nation. That realization can only be brought about by means of the spread of universal adult education. Till a bold forward step is taken in that direction nothing will come out of our efforts. The bickerings will be there and will always be there so long as the present form of Government does exist.

"In conclusion I trust that this debate would indicate to those responsible for the framing of the future constitution of the country the opinion of the Members of the House. As between the standpoint of the mover of the cut who said that no half-hearted measure would satisfy the needs of the situation and that of my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj, I really do not know where this cut-motion stands."

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, many hon. Members have spoken about the relative merits of the immediate grant of Provincial Autonomy and postponing it till Central Responsibility also can be granted. I am sure many more hon. Members are going to speak on the same subject. But I am not going to touch on that point. I wish only to speak a few words with regard to the interests of Commerce generally. Sir, the merchants are very anxious to see the end of this trouble. We have had enough trouble during the last three or four years and it is high time that we saw the end to it. The only way to do it is to have the Reforms introduced quickly and usher the new era of prosperity all round. During the last three months the merchants have had some relief on account of slight improvement in business and this could be speeded up if there is peace in the country. For that co-operation is essential. We should not merely ask the Government to speed up the Reforms, but ourselves speed up our part of the work in this matter. (Hon. Members: How?) I will tell you presently. The Government have not been slow at all in regard to the work of introducing further Reforms in this country. They have appointed several Committees to settle the details connected with the future constitution. In this connexion I realize that some sections—let me say—have come forward to co-operate with the Government in speeding up the Reforms. We all expect that the labours of these Committees will be over soon and that further Reforms will be established quickly.

"In this connexion I want to say a few words about the representation of Commerce generally in the future legislative bodies. Nobody will dispute the fact that the prosperity of the country depends on the prosperity of its trade and commerce. In the future constitution you are going to have a large popular Assembly elected on a low franchise qualification. In the interests of trade and commerce and industry it is essential that you should have a sufficient number of businessmen in the Council so that they might give the benefit of their experience and advice to the Council whenever questions of trade and industry are discussed therein. Even in the present Assembly and Legislative Councils whenever important questions connected with commerce or industry have been discussed, commercial men have put forth their views and given the benefit of their experience to the House. Their absence would be a handicap to the Council and be detrimental to their own interests. It is important that their case should not go by default. In the light of the observations I have just made let me say that the Provincial Franchise Committee has done the right thing in recommending separate representation for Trade and Commerce. My hon. Friend, Mr. James, said that he was not going to plead for his community. I think he did not want to make a long speech and that was perhaps one of the

14th March 1932] [Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar]

reasons why he did not speak about the representation of Commerce in the future Legislatures. On this occasion I shall plead for representation in the Councils not only of Indian Commerce but also of European Commerce. European and Indian Commerce should have separate representation, for although to a large extent their interests are one, on certain occasions they have vital differences. We cannot have combined representation for both. The Provincial Franchise Committee recommended the representation of Indian Commerce in the Federal Assembly, but I see nothing about the representation of European Commerce. I understand that the European Commerce were at first satisfied with the representation they would get in the European Constituency. Later on the Provincial Committee were asked to consider the matter again and they unfortunately decided that Commerce need not be separately represented at all and if it was decided to give separate representation to Commerce both Indian and European Commerce should be represented. Sir, I for one cannot understand the logic of this decision. I dissent very strongly from the decision of the Committee. European Commerce may be satisfied with the representation it may get in the Federal Assembly through the European General Constituency but I do not see any reason why Indian Commerce should not have separate representation in the Federal Assembly. Indian members of the general constituency in the Federal Assembly may not be able to put forth the case of Indian Commerce and Industry as strongly as the European members of the European General Constituency can put forward the case of European Commerce. In the result the interests of Indian Commerce and Industry will suffer for want of proper representation. It is for these reasons I urge on behalf of the Indian commercial and industrial community that there should be adequate representation of these interests in the local Councils and in the Federal Assembly."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Mr. President, Sir, I had not intended to speak to-day, but seeing the turn the debate on this motion had taken, how each community and each interest has taken this opportunity to pass its views on the Council, I thought I would be right in making a few remarks on this subject. I do not want the case of Indian Christians to go by default. In the first place, let me say that whatever differences the Indian Christian community may have with the other communities, we all wish to work with the nation. We want to do the right thing. We do not want to hamper the progress of the nation in any way. We are also an integral part of it and we do not want to hamper its progress. But having said so much, there are certain matters in which the small Indian Christian community would like to have some assurance from the majority communities. I am not for speed in granting Provincial Autonomy. We ought to know exactly what Provincial Autonomy means; we do not exactly know what it means, what subjects are to be reserved, what are to be transferred and what are going to be the safeguards and so on. For these reasons I think we should not aim at speed so much as safety. The minority problem should first be solved. It might be said that the minorities should

not in any way hamper the progress of the nation, that we should all work together in achieving liberty for the nation and that if we paused for our interests to be safeguarded we would not be acting patriotically. That is not an entirely correct view. We want self-determination not only for the whole nation, not only for the majority, but for every constituent part of the nation. And this is the time for us to say exactly what our grievances and difficulties are. It is now that we can tell the majority communities what we want to be done. I quite understand the spirit of a large number of members of my community who think that it is wrong not to sail with the nation. They say they do not want any safeguards and special privileges for their community but should efface themselves. No doubt it is a very good spirit and I would like also to participate in that spirit of self-effacement. But I should say that even Mahatma Gandhi with his ideal of self-effacement finds it necessary to insist on rights. So the small Indian Christian community that we are, we should like to state our difficulties and ask that they might be generously met by the majority communities. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, said that we should first get our Reforms and then try to reform the Reforms. I am afraid I cannot share that view. This is the time for us to say what kind of Reforms should be granted to us; then when the Reforms are granted, we shall loyally work them. At the present moment we may grumble a little and ask for a few small mercies. All the minority communities are now agreed how the minority problem should be settled. Often times it is said that there are no minority safe-guards in old constitutions, but the answer to that is we are not going to have an old constitution but a new constitution. You all know the evolution of the minority problem. It started with the treaty of Vienna which provided for the protection of religious minorities.

"Then the idea evolved further. Then the question came of pro-
1 p.m. tecting the rights of linguistic minorities. After we learnt the results of the Great War, the minority problem assumed a new shape and it was thought that not only religious and linguistic minorities but also racial minorities should be given protection. Mahatma Gandhi was to some extent right when he said that the depressed classes should not be given special rights because he was following the principle which was accepted with regard to new States after the Great War. Provision was not made there for social minorities. But I am afraid that, in these matters, we cannot follow historical precedents mathematically and we should not follow all that has been done elsewhere. On the whole it is right that the depressed classes here though they are social minorities should be given protection; they occupy a position which is entirely different from that of a social minority in any other country. The principle has now been acknowledged by all nations, and by the League of Nations that minorities should be protected. The important point is, how are we to settle this question, how are we to meet this problem? I find that various political parties are disposing of this question in a very summary way, without seriously facing the difficulties.

14th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

"I have a charge against the Government which, I trust, they will not mind my stating. Whereas the Minorities Pact which was concluded in connexion with the Round Table Conference allowed 14 seats for the Indian Christians in the local legislature, the Madras Franchise Committee reduced that number to 11 and the Madras Government reduced it still further to 9. I want to know on what principle this reduction was made. If the Government have been guided by the proportionate principle, our grievances are much greater. The Indian Christian population is a little more than half the Muslim population in the Madras Presidency; but we have got much less than half of what is allotted to the Mussalmans. I may say that I am not at all against the number of seats given to the Muslims; I wish they were more. What I say is if injustice has been done to that community, much more injustice has been done to the Indian Christian community. I would not mind if any formula had been followed. I would not mind if the Government or the majority community were to say that, as regards Muslims, we shall give such a number of seats, because of their political importance. I do not know what 'political importance' means; it means perhaps the mailed fist. The majority community says that it would give so much to the depressed classes because they require to be lifted up. They say 'we do not want to give anything to the Indian Christian community because they are a self-effacing community; they are prepared to take whatever you give them; they want to follow the precept of Christ; if one blow is given to them, they say "give another blow to us." Therefore we shall give nothing to them.' If any formula is adopted, then I shall have no quarrel. Let that formula be published throughout the country. I do not see why the Indian Christian community should be ignored; while you are doing justice to every community, why do you ignore the Indian Christian community only? One of the principles which has been accepted, after the Great War and after the League of Nations have taken up the questions of Arbitration *versus* War, is that weightage should be given to minorities. As regards representation, it is not sufficient to give minority communities only the proportionate number of seats. You must go further; you must give them some other privilege; this principle has been recognized to a small extent with regard to the Muslim community; I believe that that principle is going to be recognized with regard to the depressed classes. The latest suggestion is that the depressed classes should not only be given a certain number of seats proportionate to their number to be determined by special electorates, but they should also have a voice in the general electorate. That is weightage. The great argument urged against special electorates is that it puts the minority community in a water-tight compartment and it separates that community from other communities. It takes away from them the good influence which results from one community mixing up with another. It also takes away the political value of the minority community taking part in the election of members of the majority community. These arguments are extremely sound; we cannot rebut them. But let hon. Members on the other side realize this difficulty. If we do not get

special electorates, our members will not be those selected by us but selected by the majority community. Both the principles have their disadvantages. Therefore my solution is this; if you give weightage in the form suggested by me, you can solve the difficulty. Give the minority communities a certain number of seats to be determined by special electorates and also give them a voice in the general electorate. I am not asking for too much. Instead of giving a minority community say 40 seats, give it little less, say 30 seats only and give it the privilege of having a voice in the general electorate. Its seats would be a little diminished, but it will have the advantages of having a voice in the general electorate. I should very much like to enlarge this point. If I do not do so, it does not mean that I have not more arguments to advance. I trust that what I have said has sufficiently brought home to the House the desirability of solving the problem of the minority communities and of the importance of doing justice to every community however small it may be, because we are on the eve of the grant of a new constitution which is going to give us liberty and freedom and which we expect will give us prosperity. When we are on the eve of the coming into force of a new constitution, there is no necessity for us to hurry; let me emphasize the desirability of the Madras Government going into the matter carefully. What is the use of this Province getting Provincial Autonomy, when the Madras Government have not decided the exact formula which should be followed in regard to the representation of minorities.

" While I am on this question, I must state what happened in the case of the Municipal Council of Mangalore. It was said that it was not necessary to reserve a large number of seats on the municipal council to the Indian Christian community. But is was found ultimately that the Indian Christian community—although it forms one-third of the population of Mangalore—was not able to secure one-third of the seats reserved; it was found necessary that more seats should have been reserved. The communal feeling is there; there is no use saying ' you must not have communal feeling '; that is of course a very good ideal; but there is no use of having a big ideal before you; practically the ideal is impossible of fruition. What I say is, when the communal feeling is there, you must provide for it. The hon. the Chief Minister went into the question very sympathetically; he assured me that the Government would deal generously with the minorities and he was quite prepared to give a large number of reserved seats to the Indian Christian community. Unfortunately, his department was, I am afraid, too strong for him; his department reduced the number of seats which the hon. Minister wanted to give to the Indian Christian on the Municipal Council of Mangalore. The result is we have less number of seats than what we ought to have. In the next election I am sure that we shall have a much less number; I would not be surprised if the Indian Christians get only one-fourth or one-fifth of the seats in the Council, whereas according to the numerical ratio, they should have one-third. I have given that instance to show what is going to happen in the

14th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

Provincial Legislature, what is going to happen under the new constitution unless we give proper protection for minorities. I say it is highly desirable that a suitable formula should be devised, without going about in a hap-hazard way. It is desirable that all parties should agree on a definite formula after seeing that that formula will work properly under the new constitution. I wish to conclude with an appeal to the House to see that this matter is very carefully considered, that while we are asking for justice to the nation, small minorities are not forgotten and that we should do justice not only to one section but to every section."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this motion even though I have not given notice of a cut-motion under this demand. It is most unfortunate that this Presidency which has worked the reforms so well—which has been recognized by all here in India and also in England—should come so late in the day, after the Franchise Committee has come and gone and after the Consultative Committee has sat at Delhi more than once, with a cut-motion and say that we want Provincial Autonomy immediately, simultaneously followed by Responsibility at the Centre. Such a cut-motion at the time of the Budget discussion last year would have been quite appropriate; but now this motion is quite inappropriate. In the February session of this Council I tabled a resolution requesting the Government for the grant of Provincial Autonomy and Responsibility at the Centre, both being granted simultaneously. It was unfortunate that all the parties could not come to a unanimous understanding on that question. My hon. Friend, Mr. James, gave notice, on that occasion, of an amendment which clouded the issue to some extent and placed the Members of this Party in a somewhat embarrassing position. If he had not given notice of that amendment and if he had only promised his support, I would surely have moved my resolution."

Mr. F. E. JAMES :—" Sir, on a matter of personal explanation. I think it should be pointed out that the original resolution, to which my hon. Friend is referring, was merely for the transfer of more subjects to the Ministers. We said that there should be responsibility in the Provinces and that was the amendment which I gave notice of."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, Members of this Party were quite prepared to amend suitably. But on that occasion, the Members of the Opposition would not help us to come to a unanimous understanding. My Friend, the Leader of the Opposition, has now, at this stage, tabled a resolution for which he has been looking to the Members of the other parties for support and which at this stage of the meeting of the Council could not be moved for want of proper notice. 4.15 p.m.

" Sir, the two cut-motions although different, would practically have the same effect as the amendment of Mr. James which he gave

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar] [14th March 1932

notice of on the first day of the February meeting. Whatever my Friend, Mr. Venkataramayya, might have intended by giving notice of these cut-motions, although they have been given as two different and distinct cut-motions—one for the grant of Provincial Autonomy at the earliest date and the other one to speed up the inauguration of further instalment of Reforms—they will both be in effect tantamount to the amendment of Mr. James; and so, Sir, I was not surprised when Mr. James spoke to-day on the floor of this House in support of the cut-motions.

"Sir, for the grant of Provincial Autonomy, I do not consider a request from this House is necessary. Every Britisher including the Conservatives, has accepted that the grant of Provincial Autonomy is the least measure of Reform that should be granted at this stage, and so, I do not consider that a resolution at this stage is necessary; on the other hand, a resolution of this kind at this stage would be very much misunderstood, and I am strongly of opinion that it would only strengthen the hands of the Conservatives.

"Coming now to the reservation of seats for the different communities, *viz.*, Muhammadans, Christians and Adi-Dravidas, whatever the position of the Adi-Dravidas may be, the Muhammadans and Christians have enjoyed separate electorates so far, and what is their position to-day? Whatever they may say of their solidarity, what is their position as we see on the floor of this House? We have got four Members sitting on the Opposition, four Members on this side and one or two on the Independent benches. Having been here for the last ten years, having been returned by separate electorates all along, may I, Sir, appeal to them now to try their position in a joint electorate and find out whether they will not function better under the coming Reforms? That, of course, must be left to the members of the community themselves.

"Coming to the Adi-Dravida community, even though they are all nominated members of this Council, they are all sitting together and functioning as one party. That community also may be allowed to choose how they want to be returned and to find out for themselves by experience whether it would be better to be returned by joint or by separate electorates; and if they do find that joint electorates would be better, I think there will be time enough to adopt the other method.

"I must say, on this occasion, a few words about reservation of seats for landholders. After all, all the Members of this Council are people who are being returned by a general constituency, the qualification for which is the payment of land revenue. So, separate reservation for landholders means representation of the zamindars. I do not grudge, Sir, zamindars being given separate seats, but my only complaint is that in addition to taking advantage of the separate seats, they should seek election by the general constituency also. By all means let them be granted, instead of 12 seats which have been recommended now, 15 or 18, and I am sure the other members will not

14th March 1932] [Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar]

grudge it. But having a number of their seats reserved for them, it is not charitable or proper that they must be allowed to contest the seats in the general constituency, and thereby deprive the real representatives of the people of their seats.

" Sir, the cut-motions, if passed, will be very much misunderstood, and I think the result would be that we will only be strengthening the hands of the conservatives in the land and abroad."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" Mr. President, the token cut moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataramayya, raises a big constitutional question. Unfortunately, he has not put it in clear terms. However, we take it that the cut is expressing a view about the future constitution. Some hon. Members have been generous to advance the cause of the Adi-Dravidas in this Council. One hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, stated that without labour, the depressed classes do not exist. I will put it the other way, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" As a matter of personal explanation. I did not state that without labour the depressed classes did not exist, I only stated that the depressed classes were half-brothers of labour, and therefore I had some right to speak on that point."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI :—" Sir, in framing a constitution for a country of this sort having various communities, religions, etc., I think it is proper that we should take into account the existing state of affairs in the country, the attitude of the other communities so far as the depressed classes are concerned, and the attitude of the Government that is now ruling us. Taking the existing state of affairs, we all admit that though Reforms were granted in 1919, the position has not much changed. Do we find any member of our community occupying a place in the Cabinet which is considered to be the topmost position in our administration? Time and again, it has been urged not only in this House but even outside that this community should be given a place in the Cabinet. But what has been the actual position? They have been denied such a position. What is going to be the future of this community unless we know definitely now from the Cabinet or from the authorities to-day as to what is going to be their attitude towards our community, in respect of this matter. The Government recommending 18 seats against 25 recommended by local Franchise Committee needs mention here.

" Secondly, Sir, the local boards have been considered to be miniature self-governing institutions. Bills have been brought forward, they have been made Acts, and the Acts are abundant, but the views of the majority community always predominate there, and the minorities go to the wall. That is a very important thing that has to be considered in connexion with the new reforms. Moreover, Sir, it is not a matter for satisfaction that the majority view should be thrust on the minorities. The minorities must be allowed to have their say. Unfortunately,

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [14th March 1932

during the last five or six months we find a clear interference from the other communities when we wanted to express what are our real needs. Our representatives in the Round Table Conference united with the representatives of the various minority communities and came to a Pact which I think more than 90 per cent of the depressed classes in all parts of this Province and of this country have accepted. But now certain attempts are made to break this union among the depressed classes, at any rate. I would appeal to gentlemen both in this House and outside that they should not do any such thing when we are agitating for getting our legitimate aspirations fulfilled. The depressed classes, as a community, have been of a great help to the country as a whole so far as the improvement of the soil is concerned. Their position however has not been recognized, and they must be given such political power as is their due. Whatever the type of the reforms to be granted to this Province, there must be, as my friend, Mr. Siva Raj pointed out, proper and adequate safeguards for the minority communities and especially for the Adi-Dravidas. Unless they are granted, I may say we will fight to the very end and continue to press our view-points on those who are responsible for the grant of such reforms."

* *The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu*:—"*Sir, it is* really with a feeling of sorrow that I stand before the House, seeing the attitude taken by the Leader of the Opposition on this occasion in regard to this subject. I should not be speaking now if he and his party were not non-co-operating in this matter. I do not want to add anything more on that question; but I am only concerned with the way in which he introduced the subject and tried to throw the blame upon the Government and proceeded to state that he was the injured party and therefore he had instructed his party not to participate in the debate."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"May I say that the attitude of this party is not that? We expected the Government to allot a day; we did not attribute to the Government anything. We said we had asked the Government for a day for discussion of the whole matter, and we expected the Government to give us a day."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Dr. Subbarayan of course gave notice of a resolution, and seeing that there was disagreement between the parties, I thought Dr. Subbarayan would be agreeable to drop the matter."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Even to-day, he asked for a day."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"The explanation given by *Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar* makes the position worse. If they are still expecting a day to be allotted, and if there is no indication that they would not be given a day, there is absolutely no cause for their not participating now."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"It is fruitless."

14th March 1932]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" If they say that they expect the Government not to give a day, then I think there is every reason for them to participate now. We are as much aggrieved with the conduct of the Opposition as they are with us. We have always offered, on a resolution of this sort, our co-operation to agree upon a form which can be said to meet with the unanimous approval of the various sides of the House. Sir, the Leader of the Opposition and his party evidently think that they alone are fit to put forward a resolution of this kind, that they alone monopolise the political wisdom of this country, and that if for anything they want to impose upon us, we do not say ' yes ', they can merely say ' we don't tolerate it.' Sir, that has been the bane of our country and that has been the bane of the politics of this country; and I, standing here on behalf of my party, refuse to associate myself with any such tactics. (Laughter.) Sir, we are as much patriots as any other patriots of this country; but I shall not say more about it than that I leave my friends to themselves in calmer moments to think for themselves and see how far they are serving the country aright at this moment when, whatever may be the occasion that is given to them, however short the time allowed to them, they could have made their contribution and enabled this House to express from all sides what it thinks as to the future form of Government in this country."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" They have expressed it now."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" These kinds of interruptions won't do any good. I am sure whatever they may say—and they are never tired of saying it—I can also tell them that they would be judged at the polls by their own conduct now.

" So far as the resolution is concerned, it was said that the resolution is ambiguous, it is vague, etc. But was there anything which prevented Members on the various sides, especially the Leader of the Opposition, to come to some kind of understanding with us when we offered to co-operate with him? They want to have it all their own way and would like to impose upon us."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Is it necessary at all? "

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I know, as I said, they are so intolerant and they think they are repositories of wisdom. I wish my Friend, Mr. Bhatt would keep his wisdom to himself and allow me to proceed.

" Sir, if really there was much to say about a resolution of this sort, 4-30 p.m.
all that is wanted is a clear and succinct exposition of the views of the party through one or two of their spokesmen; we do not want demonstration in the Council, just as we see at present, covering not only days but weeks for expressing their views ; we will be having as many views as there are Members in that party. What we want is some kind of unanimity even among the members of the party to give expression to their views through their recognized spokesman or leader, so that they

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [14th March 1932

will be considered as the opinion of the party. They will then be considered by the powers that be as if they were the views of the party. Sir, two hours on this Demand is more than sufficient for any well-organized party to express its views through its spokesman in a manner that can command the confidence and admiration of anybody. To say that they did not get a day and to say that they have got only two hours is a sort of lame excuse and I leave it to themselves to judge the wisdom of the attitude taken by the party.

"So far as I am concerned, I want to make the point clear. (Interruption) I know my party. (A voice : you are divine.) Yes, but they do not, because they are not a party themselves. I know what my party demands. Though their party leader advised them not to participate in the discussions, still they actively participate by interjections. I wish, Sir, that they follow the advice of their leader at least now and keep to his advice.

"So far as my party is concerned, Sir, I want to make the position clear. We are behind none in the demand—not even behind the pseudo-Congress party which sits in the Opposition to-day—in the demand for complete Swaraj for this country and in the demand that if any instalment of Reforms is given in the provinces, it must form an integral part of a scheme which gives Responsibility at the Centre also and that the Federal Body is real and effective in the interests of India But, Sir, we stand by the statement that was made by our spokesmen in the speeches they made in London before the Prime Minister made his speech. We stand by the statement in the Sankey Report 'that it is in a federation of provinces and States that the solution of the problem of India's constitutional future is to be found '. We stand by that, but what is the immediate need for a resolution of this sort to be discussed? (Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: Whose speech was that ? Is it Sir Patro's or Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar's ?) That is in the Report of the Federal Structure Committee presided over by Lord Sankey. That was also the position taken up by the representatives of our party by the speeches made by Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar (interruption) and he is as good a representative as you or any other Member."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—"I was not a member of the Federal Structure Committee, you may know it for the first time in your life."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—"But, Sir, things have been moving. So far as the British Government is concerned they have given us an earnest of their decision to speed up the Reforms as quickly as possible in the formation of the various Committees and in the assiduity and the enthusiasm with which the members of the various Committees have been working. The other day we have had the Indian Franchise Committee working in our midst. Be it said to the credit of the Committee that they sat practically all hours of the day for the disposal of their work. There can be no doubt that so far as the British Government is concerned, they are really keen and

14th March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

earnest about this. But there is a big ' if ' and that is that the Consultative Committee composed of the various parties should agree as to what it is that they want. Sir, to-day a lot of talk has been indulged in in regard to the franchise question. My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, who wanted to have a special day allotted for the consideration of his resolution, apart from the general question of Provincial Autonomy and Responsibility at the Centre immediately, wanted to indulge himself on questions of franchise and other things. If a day had been allotted, I am sure there will even then be not one view, but as many views as there are parties in this House would be expressed and with almost the same difference. They would not agree with each other and we would have been where we were before, with no agreement on any point. We would then be repeating what has taken place in London or is taking place in Delhi about the impossibility of the members of the various communities and their spokesmen coming to any agreement. I thought it was wise on the part of Government not to have given a chance to repeating the same experiment here and take up the time of the House unnecessarily on that point.

" But, Sir, as I said, we are having the Consultative Committee sitting under the presidency of His Excellency the Viceroy and day after day various resolutions and various questions are being discussed. We have heard, Sir, from the way in which discussions are going on and the disagreements on the various points that are arising between the States representatives and also of the representatives of British India that the question of an All-India Federation may not easily be solved immediately. It is therefore felt that no longer can anything like real Responsible Government in the provinces and in British India be delayed and that pending the final evolution of a Constitution satisfactory not only to British India, but also to the States, at least so far as British India is concerned, you cannot continue the present state of administration, and you cannot continue to rule by Ordinances, but you must devise a scheme by which with the consent of the people Law and Order can be maintained. In this motion what is aimed at is that Reforms should be speeded up as far as possible. If, let us hope God will help us, the Committee now sitting at Delhi are able to evolve a scheme by which as the next instalment of Reforms we can have a federal system of Government granted to us, we will be glad to have it and if that is not we say that in the interest of the British India responsibility must be introduced both in the Provinces and at the Centre immediately. We feel, Sir, that mere responsibility in the Provinces alone, or what we call Provincial Autonomy, would by itself be of no use and would be unacceptable without any Responsibility at the Centre. We make that position clear. My friends need not be under any doubt whatever that we are anxious to take only some responsibility in the provinces and nothing more. My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, gave notice of a similar resolution at the February meeting and he coupled it with a request that as many subjects as possible might be transferred immediately, but we did not agree to it and we asked him not to move that

[*Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu*] [14th March 1932

resolution. That is a clear indication, so far as my party is concerned, that we are as earnest as any other party and we are in no mood to take merely Provincial Autonomy alone without anything else. We therefore urge, pending the evolution of a Federal System of Government, that full Responsibility must be introduced both at the Centre and in the Provinces, the Responsibility in the Provinces being an integral part of the Responsibility at the Centre, so that in future, British India can be governed, till the Federation comes to be realized, by the will of the people and by the representatives of the people. That is the position on which we stand even now and that is the position to which my party committed itself and about which my party resolved and passed its approval. Therefore it is that this motion is very appropriate at this stage as giving a sort of indication to the authorities that be and to our representatives in the Consultative Committee, that while they work with their heart and soul for the realization of a federal form of Government they should not delay the introduction of Responsibility, so far as British India is concerned, both at the Centre and in the Provinces, a minute longer than is absolutely necessary and if necessary to introduce this first and then they should go forward, at the same time, to work towards the realization of a Federal System of Government.

" Now, Sir, as I said, this subject has been taken advantage of by various Members to air their grievances with regard to the franchise question. Objections were taken to the recommendations of the Madras Franchise Committee; objections were taken to the recommendations of this Government and each community naturally put forward its claim as high and as strongly as it possibly could. We have no quarrel with them. My party is always ready to help the minorities to obtain their rightful share and at the same time it is our duty to tell them what we think would be better in their own interests and yet if they with their eyes open want a particular kind of system to remedy their evils, as I said elsewhere, I repeat here that we are prepared to go the whole hog with them and allow them to have what they want. It will be some satisfaction to my friends of the depressed classes that whatever may be the theories about the advantages of a reserved constituency as against separate constituencies, this Government and the Franchise Committee have agreed and have recommended separate electorates for them.

" One other point that I wish to mention is this and it is very material to the discussion, that they ought not to leave the minority parties to say ' we are minorities, therefore please do not open your mouths and say anything against us.' Of course minorities require to be protected, minorities require to be helped and we are willing to help them; but at the same time may I ask the members of the minority communities not to run away with the feeling that because they form a certain proportion of the population, therefore they must have that percentage of the seats in the legislature. It is not mere population alone that counts in the governance of a country. There are considerations such as that of a stake in the country that should also weigh and these considerations ought to

14th March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

weigh with any Government. While they urge for the maximum representation on the population basis, they must also consider the feelings of others and various other things that enter into the consideration of any Government in constituting a new Parliament to govern this country. They should not try to give effect only to the population principle, but as far as possible they should also take into consideration various other circumstances and various other classes which have to be provided for and which cannot be provided merely on a population basis. Sir, may I say that we take the fullest responsibility for the decision that this Government have come to with regard to this question? We have considered and we have tried to keep up so far as the weightage to the Indian Christians and the Mussalmans is concerned, having regard to the future strength of the Council. To-day the Council consists of 134 Members and in future it may consist of 210 Members. Reservations have been made in the enlarged Council for the minorities on the basis of the present proportion.

"With regard to the depressed classes, I only wish to say one thing and that is this, that while the Franchise Committee recommended a certain number of seats, this Government agreed with them also that they might have separate electorates, but at the same time they should be given the right to vote in the elections of the non-depressed classes. We have given practically each member of that community a double vote, one vote for the member of their community in a special constituency and also another vote in the general constituency. I am sure, Sir, that whether the Government is right or wrong, it has been the experience at any rate so far as the last three years are concerned that whatever may be the goodness or whatever may be the generosity of the major communities, it has not been possible either in Madras or elsewhere for us to come to an agreement.

"Then, Sir, there is the Lothian Committee sitting and there is also the Consultative Committee sitting and I am sure all these things will be carefully considered by them. Your representatives are there in those Committees. I have no doubt that those representatives will put forward your case and urge for the righting of the wrongs which they may consider that this Government have done to you. Beyond this, I do not want to say anything more at present.

"My hon. Friends have also referred to the system and the way in which reservation of seats in the local bodies have worked. I am sorry I am not able to give an answer straightaway because some instances have been referred to on which I have not got figures, but I can assure them that it has been my anxious endeavour to see that as far as possible justice is done to these communities and having regard to the population and other considerations, certain number of seats have been reserved for them. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, thinks that in the next elections Indian Christians will be less in number and that the system by which reservation is now made should be revised. Certainly any Government will be willing to revise a system if in practice it has not worked satisfactorily.

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [14th March 1932

"While I am really sorry that on the main proposition as to what kind of Government we want, how soon we want and how it should be speeded up as far as possible, it has not been found possible to get the opinions of all the sections of the House, yet so far as those are concerned who are willing to co-operate with the Government and who have expressed their opinion on matters on which they consider there should be no difference of opinion, we, as a party, join in the wish that there should be introduced as early as possible a system of Government with Responsibility both in the Provinces and at the Centre."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad that the Leader of the Justice Party made the situation very clear. Even myself, when I saw the resolution on Provincial Autonomy, I thought that there was something wrong. I am glad that giving further instalment of Reforms does not mean Provincial Autonomy. I am certain of that. The hon. Member who gave notice of the motion means not the grant of Provincial Autonomy, but Responsibility in the Provinces and at the same time Responsibility at the Centre. The Justice Party does not stand for any other Reform than Full Responsible Government for India. They want all the privileges that India can get under the British Government, but they only want to be under the British Government. Sir, I was one of the founders of the Justice Party. While we started, what we wanted in our hands was Army and Navy. We did not want anything else. Let Mr. James say anything. We the members of the Justice Party formed the majority of the people of this Province—in these days we do not know our position until it is decided at the next general election. If we really make propaganda of our creed, the whole country may be with us. In fact, there is no difference between the Justice Party and the Opposition Party.

4-45 p.m. "The real creed of the Justice Party when it was started was to elevate all the communities in the land. What is the use of looking up to one community to fight for the others ? The best way to help that community will be to elevate the other communities and make them join them. Let not a single community say we want Swaraj ; let all say so. Sir, take, for instance, the depressed classes. When they were mute, when they were voiceless, who is it that fought for them ? Who is it that spoke for them in England ? Who is it that pleaded for them before the Parliamentary Committee ? Is it not the Justice Party ? It has been the accepted creed of the Party to help all communities in the land. They are now almost on a level with the depressed class members. There is no objection just now for their taking meals with Hindus, for they are Hindus first. While that is so, why should we try to keep them separate by means of separate electorates alone? I will like that they have separate electorate and at the same time have a vote in the general electorate. If this is not agreed to, let there be a majority of seats apportioned to them in a separate electorate and the rest reserved in the general electorate. Already the process of separation has been set on foot by the hon. Minister for Education Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar through the Elementary Education Amendment Act. (Laughter.) There is our

14th March 1932] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

enlightened brother, Mr. M. C. Rajah, and there are our friends Mr. Muniswami Pillai and others of this Council who do not now feel that they are in any way being treated ill by any community. I appeal to my Muslim brethren to accept the plan of representation I have suggested and they will see that their interests would not be thrown to the winds. They will stand to gain by such a step.

"I heard a startling news that the number of elected representatives for the City of Madras is to be reduced from 4 to 2. I have expected that this figure would be raised to 8; I could not understand the wisdom behind such a proposal. If there had been any representative for the City of Madras on that Local Committee such a proposal would not have come up. (A voice: 'Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar') Mr. T. S. Ramaswami is the representative of the University of Madras. He does not represent the City. (Laughter.) I could not understand the Local Committee was so hard upon the elected Members from Madras. The City is the Metropolis of the Presidency; the essence of the Presidency, the seat of the Governor. You should not be guided by the ratio of population in such things. There are other considerations beyond mere populations. This, Sir, I say is the essence of the whole Presidency. The systems of polling in the City and mufassal are quite different. In the village, the whole village may act to the nod of the village munsif; but here, Sir, we shall have to go to each and every voter and convince him that we are the men who could properly be sent to represent them. (Laughter). I request that the Franchise Committee will liberalize their views and not to fix the seats on a population basis, but on intelligentsia basis, metropolitan city basis.

"I advocate direct voting and will never tolerate group voting. That is how peoples' men will be returned. I also request the Franchise Committee to consider this."

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—"Mr. President, Sir, the object of this motion, according to the notice in the list of Demands of the Government, is to draw attention to the desirability of speeding up the Reforms. Sir, I should like to remind hon. Members of the words of the Prime Minister in his statement at the conclusion of the last session of the Round Table Conference. I shall read a few extracts from that statement :

'What then is the general position in which we find ourselves as regards a practical programme for the advancement of our common aims? I want no more general declarations which carry us no further in our work. The declarations already made and repeated to-day are enough to give confidence in the purpose of the Government and to provide work for the Committees to which I shall refer. I want to keep to business. The great idea of an All-India Federation still holds the field. The principle of a responsible Federal Government, subject to certain reservations and safeguards through the transitional period, remains unchanged. And we have all agreed that the Governor's provinces of the future are to be responsibly governed units, enjoying the greatest possible measure of freedom from outside interference and dictation in carrying out their own policies in their own sphere.'

[Sir Archibald Campbell] [14th March 1932

"Later on he said :

'We intend and have always intended to press on with all possible despatch with the Federal plan.'

"He said later in the same statement :

'We intend to go ahead. We have now brought our business down to specific problems, which require close and intimate consideration first of all by bodies which are really Committees and not unwieldy Conferences and we must now set up machinery to do this kind of work. As that is being done and conclusions presented we must be able to continue consultations with you. I propose, therefore, with your consent to nominate in due course a small representative Committee—a working Committee of this Conference which will remain in being in India, with which, through the Viceroy, we can keep in effective touch. I cannot here and now specify precisely how this Committee can best be employed. This is a matter which must be worked out and must, to some extent, depend on the reports of the Committees we propose to set up. But in the end, we shall have to meet again for a final review of the whole scheme.'

"Then he referred to the appointment of the Committees:

'It is our intention to set up at once the Committees whose appointment the Conference has recommended, viz..

(*a*) to investigate and advise on the revision of the Franchise and constituencies ;

(*b*) to put to the test of detailed budgetery facts and figures the recommendations of the Federal Finance Sub-Committee ; and

(*c*) to explore more fully the specific financial problems arising in connexion with certain individual States.

'We intend that these Committees shall be at work in India under the chairmanship of distinguished public men from this country as early in the new year as possible.'

"Sir, that statement was made by the Prime Minister on the 1st December 1931 and I think every Member of the House will agree that the Prime Minister has redeemed his pledge in an ample measure. These Committees have been sitting and have been carrying on their work for some weeks past under considerable pressure. This Government have also done their best to facilitate the speeding up of the Reforms. We received intimation of the appointment of the Franchise Committee by His Majesty's Government just before the Christmas holidays and the suggestion was made that a local Franchise Committee should be appointed to help the Government to prepare materials for the former Committee and the local Committee was appointed on the first day after the Christmas holidays. The local Committee has examined the various problems before it with great thoroughness and the results of its deliberations have been of great value to the Government. Sir, I need not assure the House that the Reserved as well as the Transferred Half of this Government will do their best in the future as we have been doing in the past to speed up the Reforms and bring them into operation. I believe, Sir, that the object of this motion is not merely to express a desire to speed up the reforms but to give an opportunity to the leaders of various parties and hon. Members of this House to express their views ou proposals which are now before the public in connexion with reforms and the extention of the Franchise. And I think I shall be best meeting the wishes of the

14th March 1932] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

hon. Member who moved this motion and of hon. Members of this House if I undertake on behalf of the Government to send copies of the report of this Debate to the Government of India and, as the franchise question has been referred to, also to the Franchise Committee presided over by Lord Lothian."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, having regard to the intolerable attitude of the Opposition in a matter of such vital importance which concerns the country at large, I am constrained reluctantly to beg leave to withdraw the motion."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" I suppose that the hon. Sir Archibald will also be pleased to communicate that this side of the House had nothing to do with the proceedings."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand VIII for a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,84,600 under Heads of Provinces and Executive Councils—Reserved, was put and carried and the Grant made.

The House then adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1020 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th March 1932, page 182 supra.]

Exports of rice from the Madras Presidency during the years 1921–22 to 1930–31.

	Tons.		Tons.
1921–22	8,625	1926–27	114,662
1922–23	1,126	1927–28	103,009
1923–24	71,851	1928–29	104,728
1924–25	56,482	1929–30	99,485
1925–26	64,400	1930–31	106,758

Note.—The above figures do not include exports of *rice in husk* and exports from one port in the Presidency to another. The bulk of the exports was to Ceylon and Straits Settlements.

Imports of rice into the Madras Presidency during 1921–22 to 1930–31.

	Tons.		Tons.
1921–22	207,826	1926–27	237,015
1922–23	294,169	1927–28	357,141
1923–24	311,909	1928–29	320,537
1924–25	230,148	1929–30	262,601
1925–26	362,654	1930–31	351,425

Note.—The above figures do not include imports of *rice in husk*. The bulk of the imports were from Bengal and Burma.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1023 asked by Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 14th March 1932, page 186 supra.]

Statement of action taken.

(1) *Petition put in by Krishnaswami Ayyar and others to the Sub-Collector, Negapatam, on 2nd December* 1913.—The Executive Engineer formulated a proposal to take the drainage north towards the Valappar by widening the existing drainage along the Naduvoikkal. As the ryots were against this proposal, it was dropped.

(2) *Petition, dated 3rd October* 1923, *to the Board of Revenue, the Tahsildar, Nannilam, and Assistant Engineer, P.W.D., Nannilam.*—The Executive Engineer, made another proposal to take the drainage through the Thillainayaganallur channel. As this proposal was against the decision of the suit in O.S. No. 133 of 1893 on the file of the District Munsif's Court, Tiruvarur, this was also dropped.

14th March 1932]

(3) *Memorial, dated 27th February* 1924, *to Government.*—The memorial was disposed of by the Settlement Officer.

(4) *Resolution of the Panchayat Board, dated* 10*th October* 1929.—The subject was further taken up by the P.W.D. on the resolution of the Panchayat Board and detailed investigation was made both by the Revenue and the P.W.D. In accordance with the orders issued by the Superintending Engineer, Tanjore Circle, who inspected the locality on 6th February 1927, the Executive Engineer, Cauvery Division, Tanjore, formulated two proposals (*a*) for the provision of needle shutters to the drainage sluice at a cost of Rs. 210 and (*b*) for the provision of screw gearing shutters to the same sluice at a cost of Rs. 810. The ryots of Nadagudi were against these improvements and suggested that the drainage might be taken eastwards through the existing poramboke kanni of Thattathimulai hamlet and let into the Kangalancheri or the Mungikudi head sluice. The Revenue Divisional Officer, who inspected the locality agreed that improvements to the existing drainage sluice at a cost of Rs. 750 would suffice, in view of the fact that the drainage congestion at the Valappar would be reduced by the diversion of the Sengalipuram drainage into the Solasudamaniar. He also reported that the alternative suggestion made by the ryots to take water through Thattathimulai, though costly, might be considered if they would pay half the cost, viz., Rs. 3,000, as contribution. As the ryots were not prepared to contribute more than one-fourth of the cost, the scheme was dropped.

(5) *Letter from President, Panchayat Board, dated* 2*nd August* 1931.—The President, Village Panchayat Board, was informed that the effect of the improvements made to the Sengalipuram drainage would be watched for one or two seasons before making any attempt to improve the drainage.

(6) *Petition to the Board of Revenue, dated nil.*—The Board upheld the Collector's order and declined to interfere with it.

(7) *Petition to the hon. the Revenue Member, dated* 6*th November* 1931.—This is under correspondence with the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 15th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelu Mangathayarammal, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The.
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I.—SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS.

The following Members made the prescribed oath or affirmation of allegiance to the Crown and then took their seats:—

Mr. H. M. Hood, I.C.S.

Mr. G. Lakshmana Reddi.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Administration of Justice

Vacancies in the cadre of Sub-Judges.

* 1024 *Q.*—Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reasons for not filling up the vacancies in the grade of Sub-Judges from about the middle of 1930;

(*b*) whether in filling up some of the vacancies the permanent appointments were made according to seniority of service;

(*c*) whether the Government Order that no permanent appointment should be made after 15th August 1931 is still in force;

(*d*) whether the said Government Order is applicable only to the Judicial Department or to all departments; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that vacancies in other departments are being filled up in spite of the Government Order; if so, the reasons for this distinction?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to question No. 240 answered in the Legislative Council on the 30th October 1931 and G.O. No. 810, Public (Services), dated the 5th August 1931.

(*b*) In November 1931, three Sub-Judges who were provisionally substantive were confirmed as permanent Sub-Judges according to their seniority in the cadre at that time.

(*c*) The rule issued with G.O. No. 810, Public (Services), dated the 5th August 1931, is still in force. It prohibits only the permanent appointment of officers who had not acquired a statutory right for confirmation by the 15th August 1931.

(*d*) To all departments.

(*e*) No vacancy has been filled up contrary to the orders in G.O. No. 810, Public (Services), dated the 5th August 1931.

* Rao Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai:—"May I know, in the case of a Sub-Judge, when does he get the statutory right of confirmation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"When he has been Sub-Judge for two years."

15th March 1932]

Minor Irrigation

Minor Irrigation Works in the Sriperumbudur taluk.

* 1025 *Q.*—Rao Sahib C. JAYARAM NAYUDU: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total number of minor irrigation works in the Sriperumbudur taluk—

(i) under the charge of the Public Works Department; and

(ii) under the charge of the Revenue Department;

(*b*) the principle under which these irrigation sources that stand in need of repairs are taken up for repairs periodically by the authorities concerned; and

(*c*) the total number of minor irrigation sources in the said taluk under the two heads that have been repaired during each of the last three years?

A.—(*a*) (i) 60.
(ii) 248.

(*b*) *Minor irrigation works in charge of the Revenue Department and 'Kudimaramat' works.*—The hon. Member is referred to the instructions in regard to the upkeep of irrigation works contained in Board's Standing Orders Nos. 86 and 87.

Minor irrigation works in charge of the Public Works Department.—The necessity of repairs to each work is ascertained by annual inspections and action is taken by local Public Works Department officers except where the work is one which should be done by kudimaramat.

(*c*) The Government have not the information.

Education

Measures taken by Government to enforce the admission of Adi-Dravida pupils in public and aided schools.

* 1026 *Q.*—Capt. W. E. WINTER: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state with reference to question No. 702 answered at the Council meeting, dated the 27th January 1932, whether the Government have penalized or admonished any management of either public or aided schools for non-admission or refusal to accept Adi-Dravida pupils into their schools?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to paragraph 10 of the report of the Director of Public Instruction on the steps taken in 1930–31 for the admission of the children of depressed classes into schools under public management not specially intended for them, recorded in G.O. No. 2050, Law (Education), dated 2nd December 1931. This Government Order has been placed at the disposal of the Press. The report for 1931–32 has not yet been received.

[15th March 1932

Mr. A. B. SHETTY: —"May I know whether Government have received complaints that a number of local bodies and aided schools are as a matter of fact refusing admission to Adi-Dravida pupils?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"No such complaints have been received."

Fisheries

Closure of fish-curing yards in South Kanara, Malabar and the East Coast during the current year.

* 1027 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of fish-curing yards closed during the current year in South Kanara, Malabar and the East Coast (figures to be given separately);

(*b*) the number of yards that have been re-opened in each of the above places; and

(*c*) the conditions, if any, on which the yards once closed are being re-opened?

A.—(*a*)	Malabar	8
	South Kanara	1
	East Coast	Nil.
(*b*)	Malabar	Nil.
	South Kanara	1

(*c*) The conditions are—

(i) that the curers should make good the loss in the working of the yard, and

(ii) that they should pay a security deposit in advance.

In the case of the Kodumbi yard, the Government accepted the offer of the curers that they would carry out the annual repairs to the yard at their cost.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know, Sir, whether the fish-curing yards in South Kanara have been working at a loss?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Yes, Sir, mainly in view of the fact that the fishing season has not been good."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why these fish-curing yards have been closed?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Temporarily as a measure of retrenchment."

[*Note*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.

DEMAND IX—LEGISLATIVE BODIES—RESERVED.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The House will now resume voting on Demands."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

> '*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 2,28,400 *under Demand IX—Legislative Bodies—Reserved*'."

The KUMARA RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

> '*that the allotment of Rs.* 2,28,400 *for Legislative Bodies—Reserved—be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" My object in giving notice of this cut motion is to discuss the desirability of constituting the Legislative Council office as a separate and independent office similar to the Legislative Assembly Secretariat, so that additional facilities may be provided to the department for a more expeditious despatch of its work. I do not mean to say that any inconvenience has been felt by your department in the matter of disposal of work. But I feel that just as the Assembly office your office also should be separated from the other departments, so that you can have direct access and correspondence with the Member in charge of the department. Any prestige that may be so gained by your office, Sir, in my opinion, will be shared by every Member of this House. It is only with that view I gave notice of this cut motion. I hope, the Member in charge of this department and also yourself, Sir, will bestow sufficient attention and thought on this matter and consider the desirability of effecting the separation so that not only the prestige of your officer may be increased but also any occasion for any friction in future between your department and the other departments of Government may be removed. It is only with this object I gave notice of this cut motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, the Council office is for all practical purposes independent of the Secretariat. There is a separate staff for it, there is a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary and an establishment, and they are under the control of the President. No difficulty has till now been experienced in the working of the present system. The relations between the Council office and the Government have been very harmonious up to now. But my friend, the hon. Mover of this cut motion, wants that we should consider this question of separation. As a result of the new Reforms this question will have to be considered and at that time the remarks made by my hon. Member will be borne in mind."

[15th March 1932

The KUMARA RAJA OF VENKATAGIRI :—" In view of the remarks of the hon. Home Member as I could hear them from here that sufficient consideration will be bestowed upon this matter as suggested by me, I beg to withdraw my motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDA in moving the cut motion given notice of by him, viz.,

> '*that the allotment of Rs. 2,28,400 for Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs. 100*'

to discuss the policy of the Government regarding the resolutions passed in the Council, and also the question of the travelling and daily allowances of the Members of the Legislative Council, spoke in Tamil.

1-15 a.m. Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I find that the grievances that have been ventilated by the hon. Member Mr. Sahajananda seem to be very legitimate: because they not merely affect the pockets of hon. Members but also their self-respect and dignity. Nowhere else in the country, neither in the Legislative Assembly nor in any other Provincial Government is such a sort of retrenchment effected. And what is more derogatory to the self-respect of any Member is that neither the hon. the President who is the President of this Legislative Council nor the Leaders of the Parties have been consulted before this step was taken. It was due to the Members of this House that before any such step was taken the Government had consulted the President of this Council and the Leaders of the various Parties. The Government in a very autocratic and high-handed manner have taken this step. They have by that means, I am afraid, insulted the whole Council. Then the other matter is that they expected the Members of this House to certify to the fact that they have travelled by this class or that class. Of course, all self-respecting hon. Members will certainly certify to the fact that they have travelled by one class or another. There is always the possibility of hon. Members who do not like to travel by the first class travelling by the second-class and when they insist upon the Government paying them at least half the first-class extra that used to be given to them, then the Government refuses to give. I cannot understand why the Government should stick to this order of theirs with such rigidity which is certainly not very reasonable. In the case of at least one hon. Member I am aware he travels only by the second-class and does not wish to travel by the first-class and by that way shows a saving to the Government. But when he asks for the extra first-class which ought to be given to him for other expenditure the Government refuses. I do not understand the reasonableness on the part of the Government in this act. The other thing is this. It is really very derogatory to the self-respect of this House that the matter has not been referred to the Council or at least the hon. the President and the Leaders of Parties should have been consulted. I have no doubt Government wanted to retrench everywhere. They thought that they should retrench in this

15th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

direction also. They could have taken the House into confidence and I am sure the House would have come forward to have a cut in their travelling allowance. Then, Sir, I do not know why, when we have shown a Budget with a credit balance in this Province alone whereas in every other Province and Assembly the Budget is a minus Budget, the travelling allowance and daily allowance have been interfered with. They have not been interfered with in other places. In the only Province where there has not been such a great need for retrenchment, they have touched without consulting. I am not so much concerned with the cut as such as the insult that has been shown to the Members of this House and to the President of this House."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU:—" Sir, the travelling allowance should not have been cut down without consulting the President or the Leaders of the Parties in this House. It is really an insult that retrenchment should have been effected in the manner in which it has been done. Personally, of course, I do not object to retrenchment being effected. But the point is why should it be done without consulting the President or the other Leaders. Of course as regards the other departments under the control of the various heads they have been consulted and retrenchment was effected. Why should not a similar step be taken in this particular case one fails to understand. As regards the certification business, whatever justification there might be in applying the rule to paid servants, there is absolutely no justification for honorary Members of this Council being compelled to furnish the certificate for the classes by which they travelled. Especially this has been a change which has been brought into existence for the first time. I understand that though the Retrenchment Committee was consulted in the matter of effecting retrenchment, about the latter portion, namely, certification, they were not consulted at all. If that is so, it is all the more deplorable. The Law department might have been consulted but that is a matter which does not affect them. If the office of the Legislative Council had been a separate department it is unthinkable that such a course would have been adopted."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, the hon. Mover of this resolution, Swami Sahajananda, discussed the policy of Government regarding the resolution passed in this Council. I may say that the resolutions passed are recommendations and when each resolution is passed Government consider the question very seriously and wherever it is possible they give effect to the wishes of the Members of the Legislative Council. They immediately communicate to the Council office the result of the action taken by the Government on each resolution. Then my friend passed on to travelling allowance and the question of certification. With regard to the travelling allowance the Government took action on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee. The Retrenchment Committee wanted that Members of the Legislative Council should draw the same allowance as first-class officers. Since we have decreased the travelling allowance of the first-class officers we have to decrease the

[Sir Mahomed Usman] [15th March 1932

travelling allowance of the Members of the Legislative Council. Since the Council was not in session and owing to the fact that it was a recommendation of a Committee of the Legislative Council the Government accepted the recommendation. Government had no idea of insulting the Members by not consulting them. We thought it was a recommendation made by the Retrenchment Committee which was elected by the Legislative Council and safely assumed that it reflected the views of this Council and therefore we accepted the decision made by the Retrenchment Committee. As regards the certificate, Sir, I may say I understand we have now allowed Members of Legislative Council to travel second-class and claim one second-class and half first-class fare. Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar wrote to Government about it and we agreed to this course. It is possible to do this only with the certificate by the Members of the Legislative Council. Without their certifying it will not be possible to do this. But now since the Members of the Legislative Council are very keen that they ought not to be asked to produce the certificate, I am prepared to have the question reconsidered. Mr. Venkataramayya had no objection to cutting the travelling allowance but what he wanted was that they should not be insulted by the asking of a certificate. Another reason why we did it was that we demand it from our first-class officers. At any rate Government did not dream that it would be considered an insult. The question will be reconsidered."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether the hon. Member is dispensing with the certificates altogether or whether the question is merely under consideration. As regards the first-class we do not understand what he meant. Is it half the first-class when one travels by the second ? "

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"What I said was that a Member of the Legislative Council can now travel by second-class and claim second-class fare and half first-class fare."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"When there was wholesale depression everywhere and when the Committee was recommending retrenchment in every department they thought that the Members of the Legislative Council who are really representatives of the people should also have some sacrifice. It was with this intention that they recommended a reduction of the rate of daily allowance from Rs. 10 to Rs. 7. Even in the first Council the daily allowance was fixed at Rs. 7 and it was subsequently raised to Rs. 10. Then the local Members who were residing in Madras were not given any daily allowance and it was only subsequently that daily allowance was granted to such Members. So the Committee thought that as a measure of retrenchment they were justified in recommending a reduction.

11-30 a.m. "Coming to the travelling allowance, the travelling allowance to the Legislative Council Members was fixed at the same rate at which

15th March 1932] [Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar]

the first-class officers of Government were paid, and when the travelling allowance of such officers was reduced from one-and-three-fifths to one-and-a-half, the travelling allowance of the Legislative Council Members was recommended to be reduced also. It was the intention of the Committee that in whatever class they travel they should enjoy as a margin, one first class, that is, half first class when they come to Madras and another half when they leave it. This has been made clear subsequently in the final recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee which runs as follows:—

'An alternative suggestion has been made to Government that an officer may be entitled to travel by any class he may elect, but he will be entitled to draw travelling allowance at one fare for the class by which he travelled plus half first class fare.'

"We rightly thought that no Member should make any undue profit out of the travelling allowance that is granted. These are the principles on which we considered the question of travelling allowance to be paid to officers as well Members of the Legislative Council."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—"I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 2,28,400 *for Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"Mr. President, during the General Discussion which followed the presentation of the Budget I had occasion to refer to the great delay which now occurs in the payment of travelling allowances to non-official Members of Council. As the hon. Member in charge did not make any reply to my statement I shall now state the facts regarding the matter. It seems to me to be very strange that within the precincts of this Council there should be so much delay, and when we are trying to redress grievances elsewhere we ourselves have to suffer a grievance and that we should be asked to go to the office several times to receive payment of the small amounts which we are now receiving. I am not going to suggest anything which will increase the expenditure of the department. I am only asking for more efficient working of the existing rules. I may say at once that I attach no blame whatever to the Legislative Council office. On the other hand, they are taking a great deal of trouble over the matter, and but for their courtesy and trouble, the grievance would be much worse. What I understand is that there is a certain amount of red-tapism at the bottom. The Accountant-General says that every item should be checked in his office, that there should be a pre-audit, and until his clerks are satisfied of the amount to be paid it should not be paid. There is a rule so far as mufassal payments are concerned that immediate pre-audit is not necessary. Therefore if a Member of this Council goes to his head-quarters and puts in any claim there he can get payment immediately without any audit. But if he wants payment made in this Council, then immediate audit becomes necessary. Immediate audit means not immediate payment. I am unable to understand the reason for this red-tapism. I should like to know whether as a matter of fact the audit clerks in the Accountant-General's office have been able to discover many

cases in which wrong payments have been made. Errors do sometimes take place, but they can be corrected at the time of next payment. I suppose Members of the House have heard of the enquiry held in the United States of America some years ago regarding efficient working of the various departments. The report of the Committee was the basis I believe of the Committee Report made in Madras. It is not feasible to shut the door against every possible fraud and mistake, and if the object is to shut the door against the possibility of frauds or mistakes, then the work of every Government department will be very prolonged. In order to avoid wrong payment, it is not necessary to subject every payment to unnecessary delay. The Tottenham Report has been before the Government departments for some time, still this unnecessary delay is tolerated in the Accountant-General's office. This official should set a good example to other departments and see that payments are made without delay. I know when a witness gave evidence before the Indian Statutory Commission, the payment allowance was made within a few minutes. I do not see why that system should not be adopted here. Perhaps the difficulty is that there is no imprest allowed to the Legislative Council office. I ask what is the harm in having such an imprest. Already a large sum of money is kept by the cashier, and I do not see why a little more money may not be kept with him so that payment may be made by him without delay. I trust that this matter will be seriously considered. There is no extra charge to any department; on the other hand there will be increase in efficiency.

"The next point is the question of accommodation for the Library. Our Library is an excellent one; it has grown very quickly. I find that the small room which is allotted for it is not sufficient. Books are scattered throughout the building, some near the store room, some near the luncheon room, and some in the reading room. It is very difficult to get a book quickly. If you want a book, you have to apply to the Librarian. I may say that the Librarian is very courteous and obliging, but it is not possible for one man to attend to everybody, with the result that there is sometimes delay. I advocate the open access system; it will save the time both of the staff and of the reader. If all the books are accessible you can go ronnd and see what books you want to read. If you do not want a book, you can put it back and take out another. That is not possible under the present system. The open access is not a new idea. You have read how Dr. Johnson was very fond of browsing among books in libraries. This may involve a certain amount of expenditure for structural purposes and might perhaps require additional staff. Even so, I think it is very desirable that this improvement should be effected. It may be said that at present there is really no great demand for this open access system, that the Librarian is able to give any books you want. I anticipated that objection to my proposal. I see the Secretary nodding; I have read his thoughts. That argument is a very weak argument. It is not possihle for one man to attend to all the Members who ask for books. If you go and ask for a book from the Librarian, by the time he finds out the key and opens the almirah your passion for reading is gone. That is a psychological fact. If you want

15th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

a Library that is to be really useful, the books should be easily accessible to you. The open access system has been before the public for a long time and I do not think it is really necessary to discuss its advantages further.

"Then as regards the accommodation, it is quite possible to increase the accommodation by taking over the rooms on the east, the Committee room, Visitors room and the Members room. The rooms I refer to are adjoining the luncheon room. There is much space which can be converted into a Library if the open access system is adopted, by making a few structural changes. The eastern veranda may be enclosed with trellis work. If this is done it will be a great convenience to the Members of the Council. I am sorry to say the present Library is hardly a reading room; it is a sort of visitors' room or club. It is not possible to do any reading there. There are no proper chairs, and there is not enough elbow room. Therefore, if the suggestion of mine is adopted, it will be possible I think to attend to the convenience of the Members. And the room which is now the Library room may be given over to Committee meetings. The Committee meetings are very rarely held in the Committee room. Most of the meetings are held elsewhere, and if a meeting of a Committee consisting of a large number of members has to be held it may be held in this Council hall. I trust the hon. Member in charge will very seriously consider this question and will be able to add to the amenities of the Council by seeing that the accommodation of the Library is extended and open access system is adopted. It may be asked where the funds are to come from to meet this extra cost. I believe a sum of Rs. 3,000 has been voted for this Library. I quite see it is very desirable to have a fresh stock of books; but it is better to have a few books and read them thoroughly than increase the number of books and not read them at all. According to the present system each book is not read to the fullest possible extent. I have before me a book on the five laws of Library written by Mr. S. E. Ranganathan; it is a very interesting book and one of the laws is that every book must have a reader, and another law is that every book must be read by as many as possible. These two rules are not observed here. The system I advocate will enable us to follow these rules. As regards the expenditure a part of the Rs. 3,000 may be allocated for any expenditure connected with the adoption of the system, and perhaps the Public Works Department will be able to squeeze some money from its vote and if necessary spend it on structural changes. Even if half the amount which is now allotted for the Library is spent on books it will be sufficient this year, and if every year a small amount is spent on structural improvements, it will be possible to improve the present Library and place it in the same class as other important libraries elsewhere."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"Sir, what I wanted to speak has already been spoken by my hon. Friend representing the West Coast Christian Constituency. I would only add that it is very desirable that Members should be given free and unrestricted facilities in choosing books. The system of open access is already in vogue in the Madras

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [15th March 1932

University Library. All that is required is the attendance of one or two clerks who would just put the persons, who want to get at particular books, in the proper section. If there is a guide so to say to lead the Members who wish to choose books from certain sections, that will be enough for the purpose. As it is the practice in our Library is very different. First of all the Library is very much over-crowded. There is not sufficient space for keeping the books and the books that are to be kept in certain almirahs in a particular place, are kept in different places. That does not give us the idea as to which book is kept in which place, until we see the Librarian and he tells us. He does not always find time to guide us or if at all he is able to do so, it takes a lot of time for him to come and guide us. The best system will be to keep these books in a book stand and allow us—not merely it is advisable but even desirable—to read through the contents of those books and then apply to the Librarian for taking those books home. It will not cost the Government to convert the present system into an open access system. No doubt more space is necessary and I am sure the hon. the Leader of the House will find more space in the downstairs portion of the Secretariat buildings. I understand there are rooms which are now occupied by offices not directly connected with the Legislative Council Office. If those rooms are vacated and handed over to the Legislative Council Office, I think we will have sufficient accommodation for a decent Library. Besides, the Library, as it is at present, is hardly fit for the purpose. It must be changed as early as possible. I would therefore request the hon. the Leader of the House to take early steps to leave the whole of the downstairs portion of the building in charge of the hon. the President for the accommodation of the Library."

* Mr. F. E. James :—" I should like to support as strongly as possible the appeal made for better accommodation of the Library of the Legislative Council. I remember that the late Mr. Cotton, together with the Secretary and some Members of the Council, went round the lower portions of the Secretariat buildings to find out whether additional accommodation could be provided. I would personally request you, Mr. President, as guardian of the comforts of Members, to take some special interest in this matter and see what improvements can be effected. Perhaps it would help if two or three Members of the Council along with the Chief Secretary were appointed by you as a Committee to go into the whole question and see what improvements, if any, could be effected.

" There is one other point I should like to say in connexion with the Library which the hon. the Finance Member might take notice of. I think there has been some wastage of expenditure in the purchase of books. There should be some policy in selecting the books for the Library. We do not expect this Library to be a Lending General Library. I do not think it is necessary that the Library should contain Russian novels, or books with continental flavour, or books of an ephemeral character. . . . I think a certain amount of haphazardness has prevailed in the purchase of books. The Secretary is, prehaps, too willing to accept suggestions with regard to purchase of books from Members. The purchase of the books for the Legislative Council Library should not

be dependent upon the particular will of any Member of this House for the time being. If a Member wants to make a speech, naturally he would like to consult several books and so if there is greater accommodation and greater number of books, he will collect sufficient materials and make a better speech. I make these suggestions to you, Sir, Mr. President, so that you may take upon yourself the initiative of moving in this connexion and finding out additional accommodation. It may involve the provision of some almirahs which may not after all cost very much. The other suggestion is that there should be some policy with regard to the selection of books for the Library. It should consist of books of a legal, parliamentary and constitutional character, books which could be useful to Members."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Sir, in the course of the support which my hon. Friend Mr. James gave to the motion before the House, I am afraid he has levelled a thoroughly unfounded charge against those gentlemen who had anything to do with regard to the selection of books for the Library. I am one of those who had, for the last two years, something to do with the selection of books. I do not believe that any book of any ephemeral character or of passing interest was selected for this Library. I hope hon. Members of this House will give some credit at least to the discretion of those hon. Members who are selected by the President to assist the Secretary to make purchase. It is not only books which deal with Parliaments or with law that are necessary, but there are other books on various other subjects which are of equal interest to us, if not greater interest, which should be made available to the Members of this House, so that the wisdom that might be learnt from these books might be utilized by hon. Members in making their speeches short and sweet for which my hon. Friend Mr. James also stands.

" Sir, I have not come across any novels at all in the Library. If he refers to some books on Sovietism I should rather think that it is a literature with which every hon. Member of this House should be well acquainted. Since Mr. James is a Member of the Committee, I do not think he need be afraid of any danger of the Library being flooded with books of fleeting interest.

" Apart from the fact that the books that we have are of considerable importance, the desideratum now is how all these books can be made easily available to the Members. There is a clerk who is willing to lend books. I am afraid many of the Members do not know what books they have got to take from the Library. With some idea in their minds, they step into the Library in order to proceed with a particular book, but they find they cannot get at that particular book as it is kept in closed bureaus. It would be easy for hon. Members of this House to go and find out whether a particular book is available if only doors of these bureaus are removed and the latter left open. If a clerk is to give a book from the Library, it means the Member has to make up his mind before as to what book he wants from the Library. Then the Library clerk must not be engaged in any other work. Then it is he takes the trouble of taking out that book and giving it to the Member. Instead of

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [15th March 1932

that I should think that Members of this Council may be trusted for the proper use of the Library and open access system may be introduced, and one of the clerks is sent for this purpose. I do not think Mr. James would object to the granting of as much facilities as possible to the Members of this House for getting books in the Library. To-day the Library is a store-godown of books. It would be a useful Library only if Members are made to get the books for which they apply quickly.

"I think there is another suggestion which I was discussing with my Friend Mr. Krishna Ayyar, the Secretary, and that is this: to give the benefit of circulation of some of the journals and periodicals amongst Members of this House who live in the City. There are several English dailies and weeklies which come to the Library. Most of them are left unread. I would suggest that it must be made possible to arrange for the circulation of these periodicals amongst Members who live in the City. It may not be possible to circulate them amongst Members who are in the mufassal. If that is to be done, it would mean additional postage. If mufassal Members are willing to bear the postage charges, then there would be no difficulty for them also.

"Another thing that I want to touch upon is this: During the vacation one or two clerks should be put in charge of the Library. It is exactly during the vacation that one finds time to read these books and if during that period the Library is closed, I am afraid it would mean that the advantage which some of the Members would otherwise derive is denied to them. I trust that these suggestions will be carefully considered by the Government, and because they will not have to incur any additional expenditure on this account, I hope they will give effect to these suggestions as early as possible."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, as regards the payment of travelling allowance to non-official Members of the Legislative Council the points urged by the hon. Member have received the consideration of the Government more than once and I am told that the Accountant-General thinks that it would not be possible to do so. I understand that all the same the energetic Council Secretary of the Legislative Council is trying his best to see that every facility is given to hon. Members to get their travelling allowance bills cashed as early as possible and that the Accountant-General is very much obliging them in this direction. If my hon. Friend wants that the suggestion that he made should once again be considered, I have no objection to do the same.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. James, said that the Chief Secretary, Mr. James and the Secretary to the Legislative Council went about the whole buildings last year to find out whether it was possible to get additional accommodation for the Library. An appeal has been made to the Government to do something in this direction. I am thoroughly agree-
12 noon. able to try once again in this direction. As regards the other point—the introduction of the open access system in the Library—The matter is entirely in the hands of the hon. the President. The Government have nothing to do with it. I had a talk with the hon. the President

15th March 1932] [Sir Mahomed Usman]

and if the Library Committee passes a resolution on this subject I am sure the hon. the President will give his best consideration to it. As regards the books in the Library, I am told that this Library is considered to be one of the best libraries in Madras. The selection of books is in the hands of a Committee appointed by the hon. the President, and Government do not take any responsibility for the selection.

"In conclusion I may say that the hon. the mover of the cut said he would not press the motion if I promised consideration of the matters he dealt with in his speech. Now that I have undertaken to consider them I hope he will have no objection to withdraw his motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 2,28,400 *for Legislative Bodies be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

"My object is to suggest that the allotment for the purchase of books and periodicals for the library should be increased.

"Sir, year before last a sum of Rs. 5,000 was allotted for this purpose and that sum was fully spent. But last year out of Rs. 5,000, only Rs. 3,000 was spent and before we could spend the rest retrenchment came on and we had to surrender the remaining Rs. 2,000 as a saving from this item. For one thing, the Library cannot be expanded for want of accommodation. Also, Rs. 5,000 a year is not quite sufficient to purchase all the books that should be in a Legislative Council Library like ours. For these two reasons—want of accommodation and want of funds—the Secretary to the Council and the Library Committee have been very sparing in their choice of books confining it only to very important books and those which are urgently required. There is a large number of books that ought to be in our Library but are not there. I am myself a frequent user of the Library and I find I am handicapped. For instance, our Library has not got copies of the Colonial Statutes. We have not got literature of countries like China and Japan; particularly the literature of Japan is not available. To make up these defects Government should allot not merely the Rs. 5,000 they were giving before but should increase the grant by two or three thousand rupees. Our aim should be to make our Library the foremost of its kind in India."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Sir, I understand that Rs. 1,700 was cut down from the Library Grant on the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee. We have provided Rs. 3,300 for the next year. The difficulty now is that we have no accommodation to keep all the books we may buy. If it is found possible to have more accommodation, Government will certainly consider the question of increasing the grant to the Library. It may not be possible to do anything now, but for the year 1933–34 we hope we shall be able to do our best."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

[15th March 1932

The Demand that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,28,400 for 'IX. Legislative Bodies—Reserved' was put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND X—SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTER ESTABLISHMENTS, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, in the absence of Sir Archibald Campbell who will be here presently, with your permission, I beg to move—

'*that on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,22,69,400 for 'X. Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved'.*"

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 2,22,69,400 for Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

(The hon. the Revenue Member came in.)

"Sir, I should like to ask for information on some points and criticise the present policy of the Government on others. First of all with reference to the provision made for Secretaries to Government, Deputy and Assistant Secretaries, I should like to ask, in view of the fact that Government are not proposing to reduce the present numbers, what is their reason for not touching this item at all while they have gone on reducing establishments in many directions. I have some internal knowledge of things and I can say that there are one or two Secretaries who are not overburdened with work. I might mention names for the information of the hon. the Finance Member who is sceptical about it: I think the Development Secretary is not, at all events, overburdened with work. I say that from internal experience. Then, Sir, if we compare the Budget provision this year with last year and the previous years, one notices a steady increase in the number of Deputy Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries. I don't blame my hon. Friend, the present Finance Member, for it; but I am afraid his predecessors have been the greatest offenders in this respect. I think they have added very considerably to the Secretariat Establishment of the Finance Department; the number of Deputy and Assistant Secretaries has gone on steadily increasing from year to year. I do not say that the present Finance Member is responsible, but there is the fact. Now I would like to ask, particularly in view of the present financial conditions, whether Government ought not to consider an entire change in the system of Secretariat management. In olden days there were no Secretaries to Government for many departments; the departmental heads themselves were Secretaries. For instance, take the Public Works Department, the Medical Department and some other departments, the heads of these departments themselves acted as Secretaries to Government and they got a small allowance for it. That has all gone now and we have got

15th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

a huge batch of Secretaries. I dare say they are all very good and deserving men, but I want to ask whether we can afford to keep up this big establishment of Secretaries and Deputy Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries and whether, when we have been forced to send so many men home and reduce salaries all round, it is not time at least now to consider this question. At one time when the whole question of the method of Secretariat work was raised, the Madras Government, contrary to the practice that obtained till then in this province and contrary to the practice that obtains even now in many other provinces, went in for separate Secretaries to Government in all departments. I believe even to-day in other provinces, the Chief Engineer is the Secretary to Government in the Public Works Department; even in many other departments in other provinces the Head of the department is the Secretary to Government. I shall perhaps be told that they found the old system inefficient and the new system very efficient. But, speaking from experience of one department at any rate—the Public Works Department—and without any disrespect to the very eminent men who have been holding the post of Secretary in the Public Works Department, I should say they generally act as post offices; they are perfectly helpless very often. Speaking from experience, I can say that in many cases they blundered thoroughly. In dealing with technical questions they were not able to understand things thoroughly. In any case they were often found to be the mouthpieces of the Chief Engineer. If the Government wanted any information urgently, what the Secretary did was to have a hurried telephonic conversation with the Chief Engineer and repeat the substance of it to the Government. Oftentimes he did it incorrectly. I do not know what happens in a non-technical department like the Revenue Department, but certainly in a technical department like the Public Works Department, it is much better to have the departmental head act as the Secretary to Government. I do not make this suggestion in the hope that the Government will adopt it at once, but that at least it will be considered by them at a time of financial stringency like this.

"I do not know what the Retrenchment Committee did on this question; we have not been supplied with detailed information about the recommendations of the Committee. But this is a matter which deserves the serious consideration of the Government.

"I cannot now refer to the Board of Revenue. The demand appears under so many different heads. But in passing I may say that it is an example of the system of having a hierarchy of officials in every department of the Government. In the Revenue Department you have at first the Collector. From the Collector the case goes to the Revenue Board, and then to the Secretary to the Government and finally to the Member of Government concerned. I think at least some of these intermediary stages should be retrenched without any loss of efficiency. (The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes: 'What about Superintending Engineers?') I am not referring to that. I am referring to the Board of Revenue. Under the present system there is a tremendous amount

of note-writing. It starts right away from the bottom: some Superintendent in the Secretariat starts putting up the first note, it goes to the Deputy Secretary or the Assistant Secretary who adds his note to it. Then it goes to the Secretary who adds his note to it. Then it goes on to the Member or Minister. Possibly the Secretary finds something wrong and sends it back when the case goes down the whole series and comes up again with added notes. By the time the case comes up to the Member or Minister, the file has increased in dimensions vastly. The poor Member or Minister is more puzzled than helped. He is by no means able to go through the whole series of notes some of which contradict others. I think the system has become too complicated and it is time that we thought of simplifying it. In fact, personally when I had anything to do with a Secretariat file I was forced to read through an entire file from bottom to top.

12-15 p.m. "I think that any note that has to go to the Member or Minister, must be that of the Secretary to the Department; because he finds very little time to do so, the result is the whole note is sent to the Member or Minister who is forced to read every page of the file. What I point out is this; it is time to consider whether we ought not to alter the whole system and whether by simplifying matters, we cannot reduce the Secretariat establishment.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the Madras Record Office, I think that this House is not satisfied with the present arrangement. I doubt whether the time has not come, particularly in view of the present financial stringency, when we should consider the necessity of having such a highly paid officer as the Curator. It is an extra berth provided for the I.C.S. Although I have great respect for the members of the Indian Civil Service, the question is whether it may be possible for us to get a person on a lower scale of pay who is equally efficient.

"Then, Sir, I have to repeat once again the query why there should be so many Collectors, whether you cannot give more work to them—work in consonance with what they were doing in olden days—I mean not only revenue work, but also income-tax and local boards work. Income-tax is looked after by a separate establishment; local boards work has been taken away from the Collectors. Still one wonders why we should have the same establishment of Collectors; on the other hand their number has recently increased owing to the increase in the number of districts. If you cannot reduce the number of Collectors, you can at least consider the question whether the Collectors may not take up income-tax work, etc. I am aware that income-tax is under the Government of India; but still if your revenue establishments are asked to do the income-tax work, we may reduce the pay given by this Government to the Collectors and we may ask the Government of India to pay a share of the salaries of the Collectors for the work we do for them.

"With regard to the question of salaries, I do not want to repeat the arguments given out on the floor of this House. The House is of the unanimous opinion that the uniform cut of 10 per cent is unfair. But I go still further. The history of increase in salaries that has been

15th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

granted at various stages from the year 1917 onwards, would show that it was granted on account of alleged increase in the cost of living. Now when prices have gone down, when the cost of living has gone down, why should the Government keep these increases permanently? If you grant these increases for causes which are obviously not permanent, why should the increases in salaries be permanent while those causes no longer operate? If you go back to the salaries before the year 1917, I think you would be effecting a saving of Rs. 2 crores on the salaries of officers and subordinate staff. The Retrenchment Committee of 1922 went into this question and although they did not recommend going back to the salaries of 1917, they showed that the increase in the salaries amounted to a sum of Rs. 2 crores. If the Government should come to the relief of the Government servants when the cost of living goes up, it seems equally fair that, when the cost of living comes down, the salaries should be reduced. Why should not the Government do so? We may be told that the whole matter is not under their control, that the Government of India have done a certain thing and that they have to follow suit. But if they are of the opinion that the increases in salaries are not justifiable under present-day conditions, have they pointed out to the Government of India that the causes for which they gave increases no longer operate and that it is their deliberate opinion that the salaries should be diminished? I would ask whether this Government have done that. My hon. Friend will say that the Lee concessions were sanctioned by the Government of India. I ask where is the necessity for these concessions when the cost of living has come down. If you retain the Lee concessions, why not at least reduce the salaries?

"Then, Sir, one is staggered by the number of special pay, personal pay and all sorts of additions to salaries. The Secretaries are no doubt very efficient and clever men. But I think there are very many clever men to whom the Government do not give special pay. This is not pay granted for any special cleverness, but perhaps for supposed extra work and extra responsibility. I do not know what exactly the reason is. From personal experience I cannot think that the Secretaries to Government are so much overburdened with Secretariat work as to deserve any special pay. In fact, more responsible work, much more difficult work, is being done by many other servants of Government—Collectors, for example. I do not think, Sir, that there is any justification for the special pay at all; I think it is an excuse for giving additions to pay. A Secretary to Government is given special pay. I do not know if a Secretary's work is much more responsible than the work of a Collector. I think rather the other way. Possibly the Collector has much more responsible work than the Secretary to Government; the latter sits in his cool room and his work is writing notes supplementing those of the Deputy Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Superintendents, etc. I do not think there is any justification for special pay to the Secretaries to Government.

"I would like to know what 'personal pay' means. I would like to be enlightened. Then, I find, Sir, there is provision for an expert

adviser on railway matters. I thought that the Secretary in charge of 'Railways' is an expert himself and that is why he is being given special pay. Why do the Government want the tax-payers to pay for another person who is supposed to be an expert in railway matters?

"Lastly, Sir, I would refer to the question of exodus to Ootacamund. Although the main part of that Demand comes under another head, still there is provision under this head for the Secretariat establishment going to Ootacamund. It is a matter of pain to notice that the Retrenchment Committee has not had the courage to recommend the entire stoppage of this exodus. I see no justification for it at all. We should not mind His Excellency the Governor going there, if he chooses to do so. I do not like to pass any unpleasant remarks in that connexion. But what is the justification for others going to Ootacamund? Many of the Indians who are born and bred up in the plains, are really uncomfortable there on the hill tops. Some of them are getting into the fashion of going to cool places in the hot weather; it is merely a fashion. There is no objection to the officers going there at their own expense. But, why should the tax-payer pay for the pleasure of the officers staying on the cool hill tops? If you are not able to remain in the plains, by all means go to Ootacamund; take up your own house; we do not object to it But why should the tax-payer pay for it? Why do you take the Secretariat clerks along with you? Are they comfortable? Not a bit. I am sure that most of them would be glad if you leave them alone; they will be happy to remain in Madras and do their work. In view of the present financial stringency, I say this is nothing short of a scandal, that this Government should still go to Ootacamund at the expense of the tax-payer. If the officers want to go, let them spend their own money. This Government is not chivalrous enough to follow the example of other Governments. In view of the present financial stringency, the Bombay Government have been good enough to give up their going to Mahableshwar. If the Madras Government have any sense of fairness, I think they would stop this exodus. I appeal to my hon Friends on the Treasury Bench to use their influence and stop this scandal of the exodus from here to Ootacamund."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, I do not want to follow my Leader by going into various matters, because I know the futility of discussing them in this Council. These matters remain where they were or they have sometimes the tendency of going backwards. I shall give an instance, that of the Land Records Department. Every time the Council has unmistakably said that there is no need for that department. In spite of all that, what do we find? The method of going backward—to which I referred to—is illustrated by this instance. If I rise now, it is only to refer to two matters so that the Government themselves may think over them.

12-30 p.m. "As I said last time, with reference to the Retrenchment Committee, it is a Committee practically of the Government, with a Member of Government at its head, and whatever the Finance Department wants, the Committee simply pass as a matter of course. So far as we have

15th March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

been able to gather, the results obtained do not seem to falsify my fears expressed last year. We are still expecting the full report. We expected it at least before this meeting, in order to be able to discuss the report with better information; but unfortunately it is not yet ready and we have not been in a position to discuss the report in the way in which we should have liked to discuss it. As I said, it is unfortunate that it is not available at the present moment.

"What I want to refer to now specially is the question of the depression in the country and the consequent want of work in several offices. For instance, many of the Courts in the mufassal, Munsifs' Courts and some Sub-Courts, have not got enough work; but at the same time we know it is not possible to abolish those courts for the reason that their abolition is likely to give trouble to the litigants who resort to them now. So, we are in a difficult position indeed to find work for these people and at the same time to avoid any difficulty which may arise in consequence of the abolition of the courts.

"It seems to me, Sir, that there is another agency working for judicial purposes which also is more or less in the same position, viz., the Deputy Collectors. I remember, Sir, when we were discussing the question of Land Revenue administration a few years back, with, I believe, the late Mr. McMichael as Chairman of the Committee, the position of the Government was stated to be that if they found somebody to take over the criminal work that is done by the Sub-divisional Magistrate, if there was some sort of arrangement made for jamabandi work, there was not much of a need for the retention of the Sub-divisional officer. It strikes me, Sir, that so far as the criminal work is concerned, it can easily be handed over to the District Munsifs. In that way, the necessity for one set of officers, viz., the Sub-divisional officers can be avoided. With reference to the jamabandi work, we have been saying in this Council that most of the work is being done from day to day, and it is not, as in the olden days, coming up before the jamabandi officer only at the time of jamabandi for orders. Most of the orders are now passed by the Tahsildar or the Revenue Divisional officer in the course of the year. The need for the continuance of the jamabandi itself, I submit, no longer exists. In the old days, whenever cases were brought to the notice of the jamabandi officer, he went to the villages for inspection, wherever necessary, heard the people on the spot and then passed orders. As I said, most of such orders are now passed in the course of the year. With reference to other work, I do not believe in very many cases they are done at all during jamabandi for this reason, that if he has to make any inspections, he does it at other times than the jamabandi time. He does not always inspect during the jamabandi time, and during the jamabandi time the officer camps in one or two places, simply goes through the records and then passes orders. Personal inspection is not resorted to at all, and if special grievances are brought to his notice, I do not think anything is being done then. Anybody who knows what is happening during jamabandi time will know that the jamabandi officer camps in a certain place, he sees

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [15th March 1932

that the accounts are brought up to date and then passes a few orders which may require to be passed. That is all that is done. The main purpose which the institution of jamabandi now serves is to bring the records up to date and nothing more. That being the case, I beg to submit there will be no need for the Sub-divisional officer to continue, if provision is made for the criminal work now being done by him to be done by somebody else. I therefore suggest, Sir, that the District Munsifs who can find the necessary time for it, can be easily given the work of the Sub-divisional officer with reference to criminal cases, both original and appellate. If that is done, the Revenue Divisional Officer can disappear. I also suggest, Sir, that when there is a Tahsildar who is a responsible man and there is a Collector to supervise the work of the Tahsildar, there is not much need for an intermediary officer like the Sub-divisional officer, between the Collector and the Tahsildar. Most of the work done by the Sub-divisional officer can be delegated to the Tahsildar. There will probably remain some of the appellate work which cannot be delegated to the Tahsildar. So far as that is concerned, I think it can be managed by the appointment of a personal assistant to the Collector who can do this appellate work. If, for each district, a personal assistant to the Collector is appointed and he goes through the appeals—and he can also help the Collector in supervising Revenue work—I do not think the institution of the Sub-divisional officer or Deputy Collectors will be necessary at all. This is a matter which I would very earnestly bring to the notice of the Government and request them to examine and find out if it is not possible to accept it. That will lead to the consideration of the very old question of intermediary officers in other departments as well. If I have said this in connexion with the Revenue Department, the position in other departments, especially in regard to the Police and the Public Works departments, is the same—and in fact those posts are even more easy to abolish than in the Revenue Department. These are matters which will have to be considered carefully. Anyway, as I said, this question of intermediary officers has been referred to in this Council many times with practically no effect, and I do not therefore propose to waste the time of the House by a discussion of the question of these intermediary officers again now.

"Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion lower down on the paper, with a view to know from the Government what exactly they have done with reference to the reduction of the number of districts in the province. There was something said the other day when the Local Boards Act Amending Bill was before the House, that two Collectorates—one the Nilgiris and the other Madras—were to be abolished. I should like to know from the Government what exactly the conclusion is to which they have come with reference to these two Collectorates and also whether they have any proposal before them as regards the reduction of any other Collectorates. My Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar just now referred to the fact that Collectors have been released of much of the work they were doing before, and it is easy to reduce the number of Collectors, or to give them more work. Probably these are times

15th March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

when we specialize in each department, and each department wants control over its own matters. So, proposals for giving more work to the Collector may not be acceptable to the Government. There is another instance, the case mentioned by my Friend, i.e., the Income-tax department. The Government of India may not be prepared to hand over the administration of that department to the Collector again. Similarly with reference to the question of forests, in regard to which the Collectors were in the old days the supervisors in their districts; we all know that after the appointment of the Chief Conservator of Forests, the Collector has no longer the same voice over Forest administration in the districts. Probably, therefore, nobody will agree to the handing over to the Collector of powers over Forest administration. So, the only other solution is to reduce the number of Collectors, if possible. That is a matter which Government have been considering these few months, and I would like to know what the conclusion they have come to is.

"I would now refer to what my predecessor said in regard to the way in which retrenchment of salaries has been effected and how it is felt by all to be unsatisfactory. Sir, to say that a man getting Rs. 40 a month should give up 10 per cent of his pay while a person drawing Rs. 5,333-5-4 should also forego the same percentage is not fair. Certainly, nobody will say that the sacrifice which a man on Rs. 40 will have to undergo if he is to lose 10 per cent of his pay can in any way be compared to the sacrifice that the highly-paid people would undergo, by giving up 10 per cent of their pay. There is also another point, and that is, that the highly-paid man's income-tax is to be counted within the 10 per cent cut. That seems to be a most inexplicable way of doing things, and as I complained last year, such things are possible only so long as the ordering of things is in the hands of persons who benefit by such orders. Because the highly-paid persons who are already paying income-tax, are in a position to pass orders, they naturally pass such orders as are beneficial to them. So, there is nothing to be surprised at it. We only say this should not be so. Such orders should be left to the Council, and in the case of All-India matters, to the hands of the Assembly. That would be more appropriate and fair in these matters. It is really unfortunate that reduction of pay should have been ordered in the way in which it has been done. If the Council had been asked to do it, it would certainly have said that persons getting Rs. 100 and less should not lose anything at all. It would have said that the reduction ought to be on a progressive scale, according to the salary received by each officer. But unfortunately the thing has been done, and there is no helping it now.

"There is also the general question of salaries, Sir. We have had complaints that the salaries have increased of late, especially in the superior services, out of all proportion to the requirements of the situation and to the capacity of the country to pay such salaries. We have been saying so time and again, but nothing has been done so far and I do not know what the Retrenchment Committee and the Government have done with reference to the fixing of salaries of officers who

are to be recruited to the services hereafter. There was a lot of talk about it, but we are still in the dark as to what conclusion has been come to. I should also like to know what is to happen to the Civil Service. If you are going to fix the future salary of the Provincial Service men, are you going to say that the Imperial Service people should continue to get the same salary as they are getting now? That is most unfair. I hope the Government will realize that they will have to reduce the pay of the Imperial Service men also, in the same proportion in which they reduce the salary of the Provincial Service men.

"The next question, Sir, is: in what departments are you going to have the Imperial Service people hereafter? Are you going to have further recruits? If you are going to have new recruits, where are you going to make such recruitment, whether here or in England?

12-45 p.m. "For instance, Sir, the Government do not seem to pay any heed to the requirements of the departments and the need for them. In the Forest department, there are a number of supernumerary officers. Even in this Council itself objection was taken to the formation of a separate circle called the Working Plan Circle in which 9 or 10 officers are employed and that their employment for this special work was not justifiable. This particular work will come to an end soon and what are you going to do with these officers? Are you going to have them on a permanent basis there? I hope that is not the idea. Such being the case, one would have thought that there is absolutely no need for any further recruitment in the Forest department for some time to come. If I remember aright, I saw in some papers that one or two people were recruited recently (The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell: Is it in the All-India Services?) I should like to know what is their policy in regard to these matters? Are they going to make any further recruitment to these Imperial Services now and if so where are they going to recruit them? What is the principle in recruiting these officers and for what purpose, especially now when you are talking so much about the coming Reforms and the giving of responsibility to the Provinces? It is rather, shall I say, introducing a bit of humour in the situation, if they go on recruiting for these Imperial Services more and more. What is the meaning of all this? Does it mean they are going to say one thing here and actually do other things, all the while believing that we are to swallow whatever pill is given? That is not fair either to us or to them. I think it is high time that the Government considered what the requirements of the departments are and whether there is need for any further recruitment for the Imperial Services and to see whether it is not possible to put all these departments under the Provincial Services.

"As I stated in the beginning of my speech, I am not very hopeful that the Government are going to consider these matters seriously at the present moment. We are now in a period of drift and in a period of apathy on both sides, because we feel that our discussions here are not considered as we wish them to be. Such being the

15th March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

case, I do not really believe that much is going to come out of our discussions. At the same time, I may tell them with all the earnestness I can command that the time has come for a little more appreciation of each other's point of view."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" Mr. President, Sir, reference has been made by the other hon. Members who have preceded me to the policy of retrenchment that has been given effect to by the Government of this province. I wish therefore to confine my remarks to that aspect of the Demand.

" Sir, first of all, it was a great pity that as in the Legislative Assembly and in the Councils of other provinces, the Retrenchment Committee of this province was not constituted wholly of non-officials with a few heads of departments, presided over by a non-official chairman, but we left the matter entirely in the hands of the Finance Committee presided over by the hon. the Finance Member. In that Committee, whatever might have been the endeavour made by the non-official Members of this House, I have no doubt their decisions were certainly to a very large extent restricted. I am sure that except my hon. Friend, Mr. James, there are hon. Members on the Finance Committee who have tried to do their best to effect retrenchment wherever they thought necessary, but they were not altogether successful. I say, Sir, that on a matter of principal it is impossible for a Committee, constituted as it is, presided over by the hon. the Finance Member, to effect retrenchment where retrenchment was found necessary, and there were occasions when the non-official element in the Finance Committee was in a minority and it was by the majority of the official element that most of the recommendations were passed. That is why even at an early stage we thought that the retrenchment proposals that were given effect to were not altogether satisfactory. We have even passed a resolution in this House recently with regard to the question of the cut in the salaries of non-gazetted officers. Sir, if the Retrenchment Committee was constituted of non-officials and it was not what it was, I am sure they would not have done the injustice that has been done to the non-gazetted officers of Government who are getting a salary of Rs. 100 and less. In this they have merely followed the example of the Government of India by cutting the salaries of persons receiving a monthly salary of Rs. 40 and over. That is not a very satisfactory arrangement. We have referred to this matter in detail when the resolution was discussed in this Council that a great injustice has been done and that there ought not to have been a cut in the salaries of officers drawing less than Rs. 100. We have also stated more than once that there ought to have been a graded scale of cut on salaries. Instead of adopting that system, the Government have brought about a uniform cut of 10 per cent in the salaries of persons getting Rs. 40, as also those getting Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000. That is certainly a great injustice although the hon. the Finance Member in his reply stated that the effect of the cut on persons getting a low salary is different from its effect on a highly paid official. That might be so, but we must consider the actual loss that is incurred by a person getting a salary of Rs. 40 or Rs. 50

when he is asked to forego 10 per cent of his salary. That only means that he has to forego some of the necessaries of life, whereas a highly paid official has to forego only certain of his luxuries.

"Sir, several hon. Members who preceded me have referred to the question of the duplication of posts in various departments; they have referred to the Secretariat, they have referred to the Revenue Department, but I do not know whether they have referred to the Police department I wonder why the Police department alone has not received the attention which it ought to have received at the hands of the Members of the Retrenchment Committee. Here is a very illustrious example of the way in which the Retrenchment Committee went about its work on account of the fact that its constitution was what it was. In the Police department there ought to have been abolition of a large number of posts, such as the Deputy Inspectors-General of Police. Has the Retrenchment Committee done anything in that respect ? Where is the need for such a large number of Deputy Inspectors-General of Police ? Then we have both Inspectors and Deputy Superintendents of Police. Cannot one of these officers go ? I am sure the Inspectors of Police can do as well as the Deputy Superintendents of Police. In this respect, I find, there is a duplication of posts in the department. Then, we also find that the Committee has not touched the salaries of the Sergeants. There is inequality between the salary and allowances paid to the Sergeant and the Sub-Inspector of Police. The Sub-Inspectors of Police are receiving lesser salary than the Sergeants, while the former have got a higher status in the department, and the Retrenchment Committee has not suggested any reduction in that direction.

"Then Sir, even in the Executive Council itself, I understand, that the Retrenchment Committee has suggested that the post of one of the Members of the Executive Council may be reduced. I do not know if the Government have considered that suggestion and what effect they have given to that proposal of the Committee. As has been suggested by my hon. Friend from Coimbatore, in Bombay, they are already proposing to reduce the number of Members of the Executive Council by one or two. I do not know why a similar thing should not be done in our province also where I am sure they can carry on the work with two Members of the Reserved Half instead of with four Members.

"In the High Court also, we find that the number of High Court Judges has been increased of late and at present there are fourteen Judges in addition to two other officers who are practically doing some of the work of the Judges themselves. Practically speaking there are about sixteen Judges in the High Court to do the work that was being done by six or seven Judges some years ago."

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"On a point of order, Sir, I want to ask for your ruling whether hon. Members can wander over the whole field of administration of justice, when the Demand does not cover such matters as the High Court, in dealing with the Executive Council. Would it not be more appropriate to deal with the question of retrenchment under that head when that Demand is taken up?"

15th March 1932]

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I submit, Sir, that I am dealing with the retrenchment proposals of the Retrenchment Committee as a whole and I cannot deal with the retrenchment proposals of the Committee every time on each Demand? Therefore, I have to refer to the various proposals of the Retrenchment Committee. I am also reminded by my hon. Friend from Coimbatore that the Secretariat and other establishments are included under District Administration . . ."

* The hon. the President:—" May I know what prevents the hon. Member from discussing the retrenchment proposals in the Judicial department when we come to the Demand relating to that head ? I would advise the hon. Member to confine his remarks to the provisions that have been made under this Demand."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Very well, Sir, I bow to your ruling. So far as the Secretariat is concerned, of course hon. Members who preceded me have referred to a large number of posts that can easily be abolished. For instance, there are too many Secretaries in the Secretariat and each Secretary has got, I suppose, two Assistant Secretaries and then there are Deputy Secretaries and Under Secretaries. We do not know what exactly is the work that is being done by each one of these officers. I understand that each file passes through all these officers. The Assistant Secretary in charge of a particular department looks into the matter, then the file has to go to the Deputy Secretary or the Under Secretary and then finally it goes through the Secretary to the Minister or Member in charge of the portfolio. What exactly is it that they do? I know that there is very little that they are doing. They are merely supernumerary officers. The sooner these posts are abolished, the better it will be. I suppose, Sir, these posts exist in order that places may be found for the Indian Civil Service people. Because there is an obligation that the Madras administration ought to have so many Indian Civil Service officers, we have to maintain such a large number of posts. If we do not have this burden of having to find employment for a large number of Civilian officers, I am sure the Government itself would have come forward with the proposal for retrenchment in the direction of the abolition of these supernumerary posts.

" I find that the Government have been transferring their District 1
Collectors too often. I have known that in one district there has been a number of transfers in the course of one or two months. There is the district of Chingleput in regard to which I cannot for certain say who was the Collector in a particular month. There was a certain gentleman who was the Collector in a certain month and a month or so afterwards he was transferred and there were frequent changes. I ask, Sir, whether it was in the interests of retrenchment that the Government was carrying out the transfer of these Collectors. Then there are the districts of Trichinopoly and Coimbatore. Last year, we had frequent changes of Collectors in those districts. Mr. Slater was there last year but now he is here ; I could not say how long he was there. In the interests of the administration, Collectors should only be changed at least after three

years. But we find that in most districts they are changed from time to time; they are not allowed to remain for three years. That certainly is not the proper method of retrenching expenditure on administration.

" Sir, with regard to the exodus, reference was made by the Leader of this Party. I do not know why the Government should not follow the very good example that has been set by the Government of Bombay. They have resolved not to go to Mahableshwar and I am sure that the Government of Madras could well decide to do the same. Of course it is well and good to say that His Excellency should go there ; but why take the whole staff of the Secretariat? I am sure that the Secretariat can remain here and the work may be carried on. We know as a matter of fact that His Excellency and some of the Members of the Executive Council remain there for a longer period than the Secretariat. The Secretariat comes down to Madras much earlier than the Members of Government and His Excellency. Is not the work of administration carried on then with the Members of Government remaining there and the Secretariat functioning here? I am quite sure that there will not be any difficulty to do the same during the earlier part of the year also.

" Let me now come to the question of the Board of Revenue. Year after year, Members of the House have asked the Government to abolish this Board of Revenue. The Government have not found it proper to do so. They have not taken into consideration the very vital question of reducing expenditure on this item. They have of course come forward with the plea that the Board of Revenue is there doing this work and that, its hands are full, it is as it were an intermediary between the Government and the Collectors, etc. We do not find the same thing in any other province. Where is the special need for a Board of Revenue for this province? What is the speciality of this province that there should be a Board of Revenue ? "

* Rao Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have no desire to take part in this debate ; but I have to intervene to answer certain remarks which fell from the hon. Member Rao Bahadur Ramalingam Chettiyar. Of course he is in the position of a Leader in our Party; and I have great reluctance to say anything against what he said. If I do so, it is under a compelling sense of duty. He has thought it fit to cast some aspersions on the Retrenchment Committee. Sir, he has characterized this body as practically an official body presided over by an official Member. I do not exactly understand what he means by saying that it was an official body. (Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar: 'I never said so.') If he did not say so, I am willing to stand corrected. I am very glad to hear it from him. He says that it was not he that said it but another hon. Friend sitting on my right, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. I think he also will be in a position to withdraw that statement just as my hon. Friend Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. If he does not do so, I want to know whether he does stick to his opinion that it is an official body."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, I never said that it was an official body. What I said was that

the Chairman of that Committee was the hon. the Finance Member. Being a body in which the initiative was taken by the Retrenchment Secretary and being presided over by the Finance Member, we could not expect this Committee to take any initiative in matters other than those placed before it by the department. That is what I said and I stick to it."

* Rao Bahadur T. M. NARAYANASWAMI PILLAI:—" I see, Sir, that he confines himself to the fact that it is being presided over by an official. I do not know the implications of that statement. I am perhaps a bit dull. If he means that we have abdicated our duties, that we have abandoned our rights, that we did not question the proposals that were placed before us, I confess then, Sir, that it is hardly fair to us or to the hon. the Finance Member. Though in this House, the hon. Member is opposing us, I do not think he forgot his position as Chairman of the Retrenchment Committee. We had many proposals before us ; we were in a position to assert our points of view; he did not curtail any freedom of discussion on our part ; he allowed us to travel as far as we wanted. I say, Sir, that it is not just if he meant that the hon. the Finance Member brought to bear undue influence upon us. It is not fair to us or to him. It may be some of us are not clever and are not experienced; but I assure every Member of this House who has elected us and has entrusted us with this responsibility that we have humbly discharged our duty to the best of our lights. There is no doubt about that.

" Our friends are anxious to discuss the report of the Retrenchment Committee even before they got a copy of it and had time enough to know the actual recommendations. I would ask them to wait until the Report is published and they have had time to go through it. On the whole, Sir, we have sufficient reasons to congratulate ourselves on our performance. May I point out, Sir, that the Retrenchment Committee have concluded its sittings in a shorter time than the last Committee? The sum total of reduction resulting from our recommendations far exceeds the sum total of the reduction recommended by the last Retrenchment Committee. When we began our labours, we did not anticipate that such a large measure of success would attend our efforts.

" That apart, Sir, let me come to the actual recommendations of the Committee ; let me take one or two points which were taken as instances by the hon. Members who preceded me. For instance, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar said that we recommended an all round cut of 10 per cent. Sir, that was not our recommendation. (Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: ' I did not say so.') After hearing the hon. Gentleman the impression left on the House is that the Retrenchment Committee recommended an all round cut of 10 per cent. We have the interests of the low paid officials as much as other Members of this House who have posed themselves as their spokesmen. (A voice: ' Why did you allow it? ') It is the Government's prerogative. But, as far as our recommendation is concerned, it was a graduated cut ranging from about 1 to 7 per cent. We were anxious that the higher paid officials should surrender and sacrifice more and that the cut should not operate harshly on the lower paid officials.

[Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai] [15th March 1932

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, asked what we were doing with regard to the recruitment to the Provincial Services and what our recommendations were with regard to the All-India Services. Sir, perhaps in regard to this we were more ambitious and we travelled a wider field—perhaps a little more than we need have done. We could say in justification that we could not ignore the wider political and constitutional issues which are impending. We thought that it was also our duty to provide for recruitment to the services at the time when full Provincial Autonomy was inaugurated and we have provided for a scale of pay which we thought would attract men of the right type possessing necessary efficiency and honesty. We took care to see that the pay provided for was not unduly high. In the case of the Provincial Services we have provided for a scale of pay which is to range from Rs. 200 to Rs. 600 on an average. In the case of certain services the maximum has been a little greater and in the case of some services, the minimum has been a little less. Let me also add that we do not look forward to any further recruitment to our Provincial Services from the All-India Services; in our opinion there should be no outside service. We have also opined that any reductions we have imposed in the case of the Provincial Services should also take place in the case of the All-India Services. But at the same time we cannot ignore our constitutional limitations, namely, that the power of recruitment, regulation of pay, etc., for the All-India Services does not entirely rest with us; but at the same time we cannot ignore our duty to this Presidency and we have to make it clear that any reductions sought to be imposed on the Provincial Services should have the same effect in the case of the All-India Services also and have requested the Government to take the necessary steps in this direction. I do not think that even if Mr. Chettiyar or Mr. Hameed Khan were there, they would have gone further than we have done.

5 " And again, Sir, with regard to the abolition of certain districts. Of course, he wanted to have more information, whether a recommendation to that effect was or was not made, and whether, if it was so made, it was thrown out on the basis that there was some difference of opinion. But he said, 'Look at the way in which the Retrenchment Committee has gone about its business. It could have abolished all Deputy Collectors and entrusted their work to the munsifs.' Now, Sir, that suggestion did not strike me at all at the time the subject was taken up for discussion. But even if it had occurred to me, I would be the last man to recommend that. For it assumes that the munsifs have no work. I am residing in the headquarters of a district, and I know what amout of work there is for the munsifs. I can appreciate his suggestion if it is advocated not on account of want of work, but on account of the question of separating the Executive and Judiciary. The plea of want of work for munsifs has, in my opinion, no basis. But as a matter of retrenchment this would be the last step the Committee will be willing to take. I don't know how my Friend is going to provide for the other duties of the Deputy Collectors. I mean the magisterial work. For he must remember that their work does not consist merely in trying cases after the offences have been committed. There is also the duty of prevention of offences.

15th March 1932] [Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai]

" With regard to Forests, objection was taken that there are more posts than need be. We agree. We have made it clear in our recommendations. We have clearly asserted that our province should not be the dumping ground for the Imperial Services, but at the same time we could not ignore the position in which we find ourselves to-day as a result of the happenings of the previous years. Therefore, Sir, I would implore the Members of this House to wait until the report is published. I would also ask the Government to allot a day, if not two days, for the discussion of the report. What I would submit at present is that the part of the work that has been entrusted to us has been discharged by us in as able a manner as it is possible for us to do, and the House cannot legitimately question our work, when once they have elected us to serve on the Committee. (A voice: ' Who elected you? ') I am astonished at this. Sir, there is objection raised that we were not elected Members for retrenchment purposes. Well, Sir, the history of this seems to me to be as follows. Last year there was a motion for the appointment of a Retrenchment Committee. On that motion the hon. the Finance Member stated, ' Look here, I am not unaware of the necessity for retrenchment. I am going to constitute this Finance Committee as the Retrenchment Committee. And this is on the basis of the precedent which happened in 1922, when the Finance Committee was constituted into a Retrenchment Committee (in which Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar served) and the same procedure I am going to follow.' If I remember aright, the motion was withdrawn; therefore I am not wrong if I interpret it to be that the vote of the House is in favour of the Finance Committee being constituted into a Retrenchment Committee. Otherwise what is the meaning of the hon. Member who made that motion for the constitution of a Committee consisting a non-official majority with a non-official as its chairman, withdrawing it? (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: ' You cannot interpret it in any way you like.') What I submit is that no objection was taken at that time to the constitution of the Finance Committee into a Retrenchment Committee. And no objection was taken for the adoption of the previous precedent. Therefore, Sir, I shall not be wrong in saying that the Members of this House tacitly elected us as Members of the Retrenchment Committee. As regards the result of our labours, I have already told them to wait till the report is published. Meanwhile let them be fair to us in the same way as they want others to be fair to themselves."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Sir, the Retrenchment Committee stands fully vindicated by the able defence of their position by one of the able advocates of Trichinopoly. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: ' Not of Southern India! ') (Laughter.) I am sure the statement made by the hon. Member from Trichinopoly must have acted as a soothing balm to the irritating hearts of the Opposition, caused by the remarks of the hon. Member from Coimbatore. Because, as you know, Sir, the hon. Member from Coimbatore is a very earnest man and is a very able man. We all know that he is very impatient at the action of the Government. The Government in its characteristic

manner, sought to placate the opinion of those that cry loud and satisfy their demands, whether reasonable or unreasonable and in season and out of season to consult their opinion. But in this case Government made this serious blunder of not taking in one or two more Members of the Opposition into the Retrenchment Committee. (Cries of 'Oh, oh!') And if that had been done much time of this House, much valuable time of this House, would have been saved. It is not for the first time that this matter came up. Last year when it was said by the Opposition that the constitution of the Retrenchment Committee should have been different from what it was, it was remarked that this House should have an opportunity of electing Members of the Retrenchment Committee from this House or from any other body. That is how this question was discussed last year, and here again we have the very same question raised, and raised with great earnestness, by my hon. Friend from Coimbatore. He sees well that the Finance Committee is an elected body of this House, a body in which he has had confidence, constituted to advise the Finance Member in the preparation of the Budget and in the preparation of things financial which would go to make up the finance of this province. And now, what is it that we are discussing to-day? Just the very same thing that we discussed last year! My Friend is a democrat; and he yields to none in his democratic principles; and I may even say he is a very liberal democrat. And yet in his attitude to-day, as it seems to me, he is opposing the very principle of democracy, namely, that an elected body of this House is not competent to discuss matters that are entrusted to it. Indeed it is a very good aspect of the case we are discussing, namely, retrenchment. Democracy by *itself cannot exist unless there is confidence in the members composing it. And yet my Friend is criticizing the judgment of the Retrenchment Committee.* Therefore, *it* is one thing when it comes to human feeling being affected: we all become selfish, and therefore, *even democracy has to give way to passions and prejudices. And in* this case, the hon. Friend from Coimbatore has surely and unfortunately given way to them, namely, self comes first and democracy next.

"Whatever that may be, what is the criticism that has been levelled all this time? It is, whether the Retrenchment Committee has gone into matters that are beyond its jurisdiction. After all we have given certain powers to this Committee, namely, to see if it can balance the Budget of this Government, if it can find sources from which it can provide means to save the province from a minus Budget. On the other hand, if it is intended that this Retrenchment Committee should arrogate to itself any function beyond this, then I wholly disagree with it. It is the business of the Services Commission to go into the question whether a particular service is needed. Questions like this—whether the Devolution Rules authorize Government to abolish or modify or retrench a service in any manner—come under the Government of India Act. Whether the Provincial Government has power to deal with All-India Services, *is a matter which is beyond* the jurisdiction and scope of the Retrenchment Committee. My Friend *from Coimbatore has asked what the Retrenchment Committee has done*

with regard to certain services, whether they could not be employed in other spheres. To these I say, it is not the duty of the Retrenchment Committee to go into these matters."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am sorry to say that I have been misunderstood. All I said was that the Retrenchment Committee could have done this and could have done that. I see there is a lot of confusion created by misunderstanding my speech. I admit that the power vests only with the Government in the matter of recruitment and retrenchment. I only asked whether they considered this step and that."

*Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I am not surprised at the explanation given by my hon. Friend. Because there has been a lot of confusion created whenever my friend rises to speak. (Laughter.) This confusion we are accustomed to, and therefore I am not surprised. My Friend has been saying that the work done by the Retrenchment Committee is not good, is not satisfactory, and in fact he wants it to do things which are beyond the scope of its work, beyond its capacity to do. Therefore, what I say is, criticisms like this are mere waste of time. (A voice from the Opposition Bench: 'Hear, hear.') I hear a voice supporting me and if any hon. Member should rise to speak he should not indulge in such criticisms. When he says, 'yes,' he should remember that it is equally his responsibility to confine himself to the subject and not go outside its scope."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Mr. President, Sir, I gladly concur with the hon. Member from Ganjam when he said that if there had been more Members from the Opposition on the Retrenchment Committee, its recommendations would have taken an altogether different shape (hear, hear), and Government would have acted differently. And what my Friend from Coimbatore said was that the number of Members already existing there is not sufficient to make themselves effectively heard in the Retrenchment Committee. If the Retrenchment Committee had been differently constituted representing the Opposition probably its recommendations would have been very different and more liberal, and the savings to Government would have been 5 crores instead of 2½ crores or less. (Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro:—'Hear, hear.') Now, Sir, there were four Members from the Opposition in the Retrenchment Committee of the year 1922. In that year Sir Thomas Moir was Chairman of that Committee, and he gave such a lead to the Committee that it was able nearly to cut down a crore of rupees from the expenditure. If such a Committee was in existence now and if the hon. the Finance Member was its Chairman, he would have been certainly of greater help and greater assistance in determining in what direction retrenchment should take place.

"Now, Sir, the hon. Member from Ganjam said that the Finance Committee has the privilege and right to prepare the Budget. I am only surprised at this opinion of his. I had the privilege of being a Member of the Finance Committee for some time and from my experience I can say it does not prepare the Budget at all. Its functions are

merely recommendatory and only advisory at the most. Things are prepared by the Finance Department and are placed before the Committee for according sanctions or not. The Committee should merely recommend or vote them down. Those recommendations then go before the Cabinet, which may or may not accept them. What happened once while I was a Member of that Committee was that we turned down the proposals for temperance propaganda providing Rs. 4 lakhs. But Government restored the amount. And that is the power which the Finance Committee has. That being the case, it certainly behoves the Chairman of the Finance Committee to give a greater lead and a greater initiative to the Members of the Committee. The complaint of the Opposition is that the Committee did not take upon itself the duties of retrenching, but it merely went on the matter placed before it by the Finance Member and prepared by the Retrenchment Officer. Now, Sir, I agree there is some initiative shown on the materials placed before the Committee, but what I want is that the Members should go beyond that and probe into the depths of things.

1.30 p.m. "If they had done so, their report would have been more efficient and effective. As the hon. Member from Trichinopoly stated we are really seriously handicapped in not having the final report in order to discuss all the various aspects of the recommendations made therein. I have already on a previous occasion requested the hon. the Finance Member that he should arrange with the Leader of the House to give a special day to discuss the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee. I hope that suggestion is being considered by both the Members of the Treasury Bench."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"I was referring to the want of initiative in the Members of the Committee. I do not see much reason, Sir, for my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly to resent the suggestions made by the hon. Member from Coimbatore. I think when the report is published—I think it has been approved—it will speak for itself. We can even without a study or careful perusal of the report gauge as to what are exactly the nature and scope of the retrenchment recommended by the Committee. I do not know whether the hon. the Finance Member is in a position to deny that he has not gone to the utmost limits with reference to retrenchment. The opinion so far as certain Members of the Opposition are concerned is that there is still a greater scope for retrenchment and that too in directions which will be least affected either in economy or efficiency if certain departments are taken into consideration. But it is a mistake committed by the Committee already. In directions where there should not have been any retrenchment at all it has encroached and made retrenchment. In the case of the Education department it has cut down the stipends that were allowed to the indigent students. Male and female members of the advanced communities and all have been affected without any discrimination. It has abolished several colleges."

15th March 1932]

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member can reserve his remarks to the Education Demand."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" I am only illustrating how it has misapplied the axe. Now, Sir, there are still various other departments. For instance, the retrenchment effected in the Forest department has not been enough. The Forest department has ceased to be a profit-yielding department. Instead of one Conservator two or three Conservators should have been reduced. The Committee should have been given freer scope and greater initiative and the Chairman himself should have given the lead to go into matters with greater care and scrutiny. If that were done, we would have had a far greater surplus than the paltry sum of Rs. 8 lakhs. I still ask the Finance Member whether the Retrenchment Officer has ceased to function. The Committee is still there until the end of this month and also the Finance Member is there. They must see whether it is not possible for them to consider those departments which have not been touched.

" There is one further thing, with regard to the reorganization of the various departments in the districts. A great deal of saving could have been effected if they had thought of executive heads in the districts. For instance, the Collectors nowadays are not having the same amount of work as they used to have years ago. They have plenty of leisure. Some thirst for more work and activity. Even if the departments in the districts are taken and they are reorganized, a great deal of co-ordinating work could be given to the head of the district and his services more usefully utilized. That idea, I do not think, has suggested itself to the Retrenchment Committee. If the Committee had the initiative, it should have suggested the reorganization of the services in the district so as to cut away some of the supernumerary posts and transfer those functions and duties to the heads of districts who have not much work as they used to have in previous years. That suggestion, I think, may be considered by the Retrenchment Committee as well as the Finance Member. Even though the report might have been completed and formally approved, still the next Finance Committee as soon as the House feels necessary, may be constituted into a genuine Retrenchment Committee and further retrenchment may be effected. If that principle of appointing the Finance Committee into a Retrenchment Committee is not very efficient or effective, I should suggest that there should be a committee, an independent committee, arranged to go into the question of further retrenchment."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDA addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

" பணமுடையேற்பட்டால் சிக்கனஞ் செய்ய வேண்டியது மிகவும் அவசியமே. ஆனால் எல்லாவற்றிலும் சிக்கனஞ் செய்யக்கூடாது. புதிது புதிதாகத்துடங்கும் கட்டிட வேலைகளை நிறுத்தலாம். சிலருக்காக சிருட்டிக்கும் உத்தியோகங்களு

கமிஷன்களை நிறுத்தலாம். ஆனால் அரசாங்கத்தாரது முக்கிய கடமையாகிய படிப்பு கொடுப்பதிலும், ஏழைகளுக்கு கிணறு, பாடசாலை, வழி, முதலான சுகாதாரம் அளிப்பதிலும் சிக்கனஞ் செய்யக்கூடாது. பண வருவாயில் அதிக நஷ்டமொன்றுமில்லை. புது கட்டிட வேலைகளை நிறுத்துவதாலும் அல்லது ஒன்றிரண்டு கோடி கடன் வாங்குவதாலும் காரியங்களைக் குறைவற நடத்தலாம். இந்தியாவிற்குச் சீர்திருத்தம் வழங்கப்புகும் இக்காலத்தில் மூலாதாரப்படிப்பிற்கு பணத்தைக் குறைப்பது நியாயமாகாது. தமிழ்மறை ‘ பொது நோக்கான வேந்தன் வரிசையா நோக்கின் அது நோக்கி வாழ்வார் பலர் ’ என கூறுகிறது ஆகையால் செய்யக்கூடாதவற்றில் சிக்கனஞ் செய்தல் சரியன்று. தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களது நிலைமை தாழ்த்தப்பட்டேயிருக்கிறது. தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களது பணம் மதுபானம் இலாக்கா மூலம் ஐந்து கோடி வருகிறது. அதில் ஒரு ஐந்தாறு லட்சமேனும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களது சுகாதாரத்திற்குச் செலவழிக்காமல் சிக்கனஞ் செய்வது நலமாகுமா ?

“ஸ்டாப் செலக்ஷன் போர்டால் நல்ல பயன் உண்டாகவில்லையென சர்விஸ் கமிஷன் ஆக்ட் கொண்டு வந்து கமிஷனை ஏற்படுத்தினார்கள். கமிஷனாலும் நல்ல பயன் உண்டாகவில்லை. சர்விஸ் கமிஷனர்கள் தனிமையாக கமிஷனர் பதவிக்குப் படிக்கவில்லை. அவர்களது பரிக்ஷையின் கேள்விகளில் ஒன்று சொல்லுகிறேன். எந்த மீன் சுவையானது என்பது இது சைவர்களுக்கும் பிராமணர்களுக்கும் தெரியுமா ? இக்கேள்வியில் அவர்கள் தேற முடியுமா ? முன்போல் இலாகாக்களின் தலைவர்களிடம் உத்தியோகம் கொடுக்கும் அதிகாரம் இருக்குமானால் அவர்களிடம் என்போன்றவர்கள் சென்று வதேனும் உத்தியோகம் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கக்கூடும் ; தற்போது அதிகாரம் சர்விஸ் கமிஷனிடம் இருப்பதால் என் போன்றோர் சிபார்சு செய்ய முடியவில்லை. கமிஷனர் ரிப்போர்ட்டில் பி.ஏ., பட்டதாரிகளைவிட எஸ்.எஸ்.எல்.ஸி., இண்டர்மீடியட் படித்தவர்களில் சிலர் திறமையானவர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள் என தெரிவித்துள்ளார்கள். முன் காலத்தில் சொற்ப படிப்பு படித்தவர்கள் நிருவாகத்தைத் திறமாக நடத்தி வந்துள்ளார்கள். பெரும்படிப்பு சூழ்ச்சிகளுக்கு துணையாக முடிகிறது. தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பில் பலர் படித்துள்ளார்கள். படித்தவர்கள் படியாதவர்கள் அனைவருக்கும் பியூன் வேலை முதல் கிளார்க்குகள், ஆபீஸ் சூப்பிரடெண்டுகள், ஆபிஸர்கள் இறுதியாக வேலைகள் கொடுக்கலாம். முன் மந்திரியாயிருந்த கனம் முத்தையா முதலியாரவர்கள் பத்திர பதிவு இலாக்காவில் வகுப்புவாரியாக ஸ்தானங்கள் ஏற்படுத்தினார். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் அதிகமாக உத்தியோகத்திலிராததால் அவர்களது தகுதிக்குத்தக்க உத்யோகங்கள் அளிக்க வேண்டுமென சர்விஸ் கமிஷனர்கள் மனப்பூர்வமாக நினைக்க வேண்டும். அப்படி மனப்பூர்வமாக நினையாதவரை தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் இடம் பெறப்போவதில்லை. சர்விஸ் கமிஷனர்களுக்கு இவ்வளவு சம்பளம் கொடுக்க வேண்டியதில்லை. ஹானரெரியாக வேலை செய்யலாம். சட்ட சபை மெம்பர்கள் கம்மிட்டிகளில் வேலை செய்யவில்லையா? அதுபோல் அவர்களும் வேலை செய்து ஹானரெரியாக சொற்ப உதவி பெறுவது நலம்.

2-45 p.m. “சிதம்பரம் தாலுக்கா நஞ்சை மகத்து வாழ்க்கை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் மாசி மகத்தில் தங்கள் மாரியம்மன் சுவாமியை கடலகரைக்குக் கொண்டு போவது வழக்கம், அவர்களுக்கு பப்ளிக் ரோட்டைத் தவிர வேறு வழியில்லை. ஏற்கனவே நஞ்சை நிலங்களை ஒரு போகம் பயிர்ச் செய்யுங் காலத்தில் தை மாதத்திலேயே அறுப்புஅறுத்து விடுவார்கள். நிலத்தின் வழியாக எடுத்துக் கொண்டுபோவார்கள். இப்போது இருபோகம் சாகுபடி செய்வதால் வயல் காட்டு மூலமாக சுவாமியை கொண்டுபோகமுடியவில்லை. முன்னொரு சமயம் கொண்டுபோனதால் வயல்களுக்குச் சொந்தக்காரர்கள் ஆட்சேபித்து கேஸ் நடத்தி அபராதம் போடச் செய்தார்கள். அதனால் பொதுப் பாதையில் போகலாமென 1931-ம் வருஷம் போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்தோடும் புறப்பட்டார்கள். சிதம்பரம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்கள் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு 144 போட்டு பொதுப் பாதையில் போகவொட்டாமல் தடுத்துவிட்டார். பின்னர் சில நாள்

15th March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

கள் கழித்து கனம் ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் அவர்களிடஞ் சொன்னேம். தற்போது ஜில்லாக் கலெக்டராயுள்ளவர் கனம் வெஸ்ட்லேக் துரையவர்கள் மிகவும் நல்லவர். எந்த விஷயத்தையும் ஆழ்ந்து ஆராய்ந்து நேரேபார்த்துச் செய்பவர். இவர் நஞ்சை மகத்து வாழ்க்கைச்சேரியிலிருந்து பனங்காட்டு வழியாக போகும் பாதை பொதுவானதா? தனிப்பட்டவர்க்குச் சொந்தமானதா? வென ஆராய்ந்து தாலூக்கா போர்டுக்குச் சொந்தமானதென்று தெரிந்து 1932-ம் வருஷம் பிப்ரவரி மீ 22உ வரும் மகத்தில் மகத்துவாழ்க்கை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சுவாமியை போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்தோடும் எடுத்துக்கொண்டுபோகவேண்டியது. கலகம் நடக்கும்போலிருந்தால் அது சமயம் உள்ளூர் அதிகாரிகள் சொல்வதுபோல நடக்கவேண்டியது என்று 1932-ம் வருஷம் பிப்ரவரி மீ 10உயில எல்.டிஸ.சி. 1-472/32 நம்பருள்ள உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்தார். அதே உத்தரவு சிதம்பரம் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்களுக்கும், ஜில்லா போலீஸ் சூப்பிரின்டென்டெண்டுக்கும் அனுப்பினுர். அதில் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குப் போதுமான பந்தோபஸ்து அளிக்கவேண்டும். கலகம் நடக்கும்போலிருந்தால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சுவாமியை வேறு வழியில் திருப்பிவிட்டு கலகஞ் செய்தவர்களை பிராசிகூஷன் செய்யவேண்டுமென்றும் குறிப்பிட்டிருந்தார். 1932-ம் வருஷம் பிப்ரவரி மீ 17உயில சிதம்பரம் சப்-டிவிஷனல்மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்களைக்கண்டு கனம் கலெக்டர் துரையவர்களது உத்தரவுபடி ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு உதவி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டேன். அப்போது சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்கள் கலெக்டர் உத்தரவு அமுலிலவராது எதிர்ப்பார்ட்டிகள் கலெக்டர் அவர்களிடம் போயிருக்கிருர்கள் முதல் உத்தரவு ரத்தாகிவிடும் என்ருர். அவர் சொன்னமாதிரியிலிருந்து இவர் ஜாதி இந்துக்களுக்குத் துணையாக ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குத் தடையுத்தரவு செய்வாரென்னும் எண்ணமுண்டாகியது. அதற்கேற்பவே அவர் மகத்துவாழ்க்கையைப் பொருத்தமட்டில் ஒரு தலையாகவே நடந்துள்ளார். பிறகு போலீஸாருக்கு சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்களை எவ்வளவு போலீஸ் இருக்கிறது. சரியானபடி பந்தோபஸ்து செய்யக்கூடுமா? 144 போட்டுமாவென்று எழுதி கேட்டார். போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்து நிறைய இருக்கிறது 30 சேவகர்களும் 5 சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களும், தானுமாக 36 பேர்களிருப்பதாகப் போலீஸ் சர்க்கிள் இன்ஸ்பெக்டரவர்கள் எழுதினுர். அதனேடும் தடுக்கமுயலும் ஜாதி இந்துக்களுக்கு 144 போட்டுவைத்தால் தடுப்பவர்களை போலீஸார் தடுக்கக்கூடும். ஆகையால் 144 போடவேண்டுமென்றும் போலீஸ் சர்க்கிள் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் அவர்கள் எழுதினுர். அப்பொழுது போலீஸால் தமது எண்ணம் பலிக்க இடமில்லாமையால் சிதம்பரம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் மூலம் கலகம் உண்டாகக்கூடுமா என விசாரிக்கச் செய்தார். சிதம்பரம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்கள் ஜாதி இந்துக்களுக்கும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கும் 1932-ம் வருஷம் பிப்ரவரி மீ 20உயில் சம்மன்ஸ்போட்டு அழைத்து விசாரித்தார். ஜாதி இந்துக்களுக்கு என்ன ஆட்சேபமென்ருர். மாமூலுக்கு விரோதமாக இருக்கிறதென்ருர்கள். கனம் கலெக்டர் துரையவர்கள் உத்தரவிட்டிருக்கிருர். அதை அமுலுக்கு கொண்டுவரப்போகிறேம். தடுப்பவர்களுக்கு 144 போடுவோம். 144 உத்தரவை மீறினுல் பிராசிகூஷன் செய்வோம் என்று மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் சொன்னுர். உடனே ஜாதி இந்துக்கள். எங்களுக்கு 144 போடவேண்டாம் நாங்கள் ஆட்சேபிக்கவில்லையென ஸ்டேட்மெண்ட் கொடுத்தார்கள். அதன் நகலை இங்கு படிக்கிறேன். "ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சுவாமியை மேற்கண்ட வழியாகக்கொண்டுபோகும்படி ஜில்லாக் கலெக்டர் அவர்கள் உத்தரவு இருக்கிறதென்றும் அவசியமானுல் அந்த உத்தரவை நிறைவேற்ற போலீஸ் பந்தோபஸ்து ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படுமென்றும் தடுக்கிறவர்களை பிராசிகூஷன் செய்யப்படுமென்றும் சொல்வதால் நாங்கள் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவரையில் எவ்வித கலகமும் செய்வதில்லை வேறு யாரையும் செய்யும்படி தூண்டுகிறதில்லை என்று உறுதியாய்ச் சொல்லுகிறேம். இப்படி நாங்கள் சொல்வதானது நாங்கள் சிவில் மூலமாக ஷை ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் தங்கள் சுவாமியை ஷை வழியாக மாமூலுக்கு விரோதமாக கொண்டுபோகாமல் இருப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய பரிகாரம் தேடிக்கொள்வதற்கு விரோதமன்னியில் இப்போது ஷை சுவாமியை தடை செய்கிறதில்லை. படிக்கக் கேட்டேன் சரி. கையொப்பம் வேதாசலம் பிள்ளை, மெ. குமாரசாமி படையாச்சி, ப. தி. சொக்கலிங்க படையாச்சி, ப. சொ. சுப்பராய படையாச்சி" என்பதாம். ஆதிதிராவிடர்களும்

அப்போதைக்கப்போதும் சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகளது உத்தரவுபடி நடக்கிறோமென்று ஸ்டேட்மெண்ட் கொடுத்தார்கள். இவ்விஷயம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் கோர்ட்டில் நடந்து கொண்டிருக்கும்போதே கோர்ட்டில் ஜாதி இந்துக்களின் தலைவரான குமாரசாமி படையாச்சியவர்கள் சிதம்பரம் சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டரிடம் கனம் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் கிளாஸ், மகத்துவாழ்க்கைக்குப் போகிறாரென்று சொன்னார். உடனே யானும், எங்களுக்காக இரவும் பகலும் பயன் கருதாது உழைக்கும் வகீலும் எனது நண்பருமான பி. முத்தையா செட்டியாரவர்களும் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் அவர்களாய் அய்யங்காருக்குப் பின்வருமாறு எழுதியனுப்பினோம். மகத்துவாழ்க்கைக்கு திருவையூர் வழியாகத் தாங்கள் போவதானால் இங்கு இரண்டு பார்ட்டியாருமிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால் போகவேண்டாம். போவதானால் தெரிவித்தால் நாங்களும் வருகிறோமென்று எழுதியனுப்பினோம். எங்களுக்கு யாதொரு தகவலும் கொடுக்காமல் உடனே காரில் பிரயாணமானார். நாங்களும் ஒரு காரை வைத்துக்கொண்டு போனோம். அவர் பனங்காட்டிற்குவந்து சிறுசிறு குடிசைகளிருந்தவிடமெல்லாம் என்று ஆட்சேபம் உண்டா? என்று கேட்டார். பனங்காட்டு மேல்வாரப் பிரபல மிராசுதாரர் திரு. சொக்கலிங்கம் பிள்ளையவர்கள் அவர் சர்க்கார் உத்தரவுப்படி நடக்க ஆட்சேபம் இல்லையென்றார். நீரென்ன இப்படி சொல்லுகிறீர் என்று கண்டித்தார். பிறகு கிள்ளை தைக்காலுக்குச் சென்று அங்கு எல்லோரையும் வரவழைத்தார். அதில் முக்கியமாக ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு அனுகூலமாயிருந்த இருபத்தார் மிராசுதாரர்கள் வரவில்லை. நிலம்புலமில்லாமலும் ஒன்றுமில்லாத இருப்பவர்களையும் திரு. குமாரசாமி படையாச்சி கலகஞ் செய்வதில்லையென்று ஸ்டேட்மெண்ட் கொடுத்திருப்பதற்கு மாறாக சிலரைக் கொண்டுவந்துவிட்டார். கலெக்டர் உத்தரவில்லை யிருப்பவர்களைத் தடுக்க 144 போடப்படுமென்று கேட்டதற்கு நாங்கள் கலகஞ் செய்யவில்லையென்றார்கள். எதை எதை ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கும் கலெக்டர் உத்தரவிற்கும் அனுகூலமாகத் தெரிவித்தார்களோ அவற்றை ரிக்கார்டு செய்யாமல் விட்டுவிட்டார். இதனால் இவர் ஒருதலைபட்சமாக நடக்கிறாரென்றும் இவர் எப்படியும் தடையுத்தரவு பிறப்பித்துவிடுவாரென்றும் 1932-ம் வருஷம் பிப்ரவரி 21-ல் கனம் கலெக்டருக்குக் கடிதம் எழுதினோம். அதில் நாங்கள் குறித்துள்ளவற்றில் முக்கியமான இரண்டொரு வார்த்தைகளைக் குறிக்கிறேன். சிதம்பரம் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் ஒருதலை பட்சமாயிருக்கிறார். பாமர ஜனங்களின் சொல்லுக்குக் கீழ்அதிகாரிகள் காதுகொடுப்பதுதான் எங்களது உரிமைக்குப் பாதகமாக ஏற்படுகிறது என்று நாங்கள் ஏற்கனவே தங்களிடம் சொல்லியிருந்தது பலித்தது என்று எழுதியுள்ளோம். 1932-ம் வருஷம் பிப்ரவரி 21-ல் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் அவர்களைக் கண்டு கேட்டதற்கு போலீஸார் பந்தோபஸ்து கொடுத்தால் நடத்துங்கள் என்றார். போலீஸாரைக் கேட்டதற்கு மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் உத்தரவுபடி நடக்கும். இது டிஸ்டிரிக்ட் சூபரிண்டெண்டெண்ட் ஆப் போலீஸ் உத்தரவு ஆகையால் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட்டின் உத்தரவிற்கு எதிர்பார்த்திருக்கிறோமென்று சொன்னார். 1932-ம் வருஷம் மார்ச்சு 22-ல் கிள்ளைக்குச் சென்றோம். அங்கு போலீஸாரும் ஸ்டேஷனரி சப்-மாஜிஸ்டிரேட்டும் வந்திருந்தார்கள். சுவாமியை எடுக்கவேண்டும் புறப்படவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டோம். அவர் இதோ வருகிறேன் இதோ வருகிறேன் என்று காலதாமதஞ் செய்தார். இறுதியில் என்ன ஆட்சேபம் என எங்கள் வகீல் முத்தையா செட்டியாரவர்கள் கேட்டார்கள். அதற்கு சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் வருவதாகச் சொல்லியுள்ளார். அதற்காகக் காத்திருக்கவேண்டுமென்று சப்-மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் சொன்னார். 11-மணிக்கு சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட் அவர்கள் வந்து சேர்ந்தார். வந்தவுடன் ஆட்சேபக்காரர்களை வரும்படி அழைத்தார். அவர் 144 போட அழைக்கிறார் என்றுணர்ந்ததுடன் யாரும் வரவில்லை. பிறகு தனக்கு வேண்டியவரான குமாரசாமி படையாச்சியவர்களிடம் சொல்லி அவர்போய் சாதாரண ஜனங்களையெல்லாம் அழைத்துவந்து ஆட்சேபம் இருப்பதாகச் சொல்லச்செய்தார். கலகஞ் செய்பவர்களை பிராசிக்கூஷன் செய்யப்படும் என்று தெரிவித்தபோது அவர்கள் நாங்கள் கலகஞ் செய்யத் தயாராயில்லையென்று சொன்னதை ரிக்கார்டு செய்யவில்லை. இப்படி காலதாமதஞ்செய்து 4-மணிக்குமேல் 144 உத்தரவு எங்களுக்குப் போட்டார். ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் அதிகாரிகளை மீறி எடுப்பதாக சொல்லவில்லை. சப்-மாஜிஸ்டிரேட்டிடமும் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்டிரேட்டிடமும் சர்க்கார் உத்தரவுபடி

15th March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

நடக்கிறேமென்று ஸ்டேட்மெண்ட் கொடுத்துள்ளார்கள். அப்படியிருக்க 144 போடவேண்டியவர்களுக்குப் போடாமல் அவசியமாக எங்களுக்குப்போட்டது எவ்வளவு தவறென்பதை ஈண்டு குறிப்பிடுகிறேன். இதில் மேலே கலெக்டர் அவர்கள் உத்தரவு அனுகூலமாயிருந்தும், கீழே போலீஸ் ரிப்போர்ட்டும், சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டின் அறிக்கையும் நன்றாகவிருந்தும் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் தமது ஜாதித்துவேஷத்தை இதில் காட்டிவிட்டார். மாலை நாலு மணியாகிவிட்டபடியாலும் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் சொல்லும் வழி கலகத்திற்கு இடமாக தனிப்பட்ட நபர்களுக்குச் சொந்தமானது ஆகலாலும், எடுக்கமுடியவில்லை. இங்கு நடந்த உண்மைகளையும் வழிகளையும் ஊரிலுள்ள ஆட்சேபங்களையும் கனம் ஜில்லா கலெக்டர் துரையவர்கள் நேரில் வந்து பார்த்தால் நலமாயிருக்குமெனக் கருதி கனம் கலெக்டர் துரையவர்கள் வந்துபார்த்தபிறகு ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சுவாமியை யெடுப்போம் என ஸ்டேட்மெண்ட் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்களிடம் கொடுத்துள்ளார்கள். 1932-ம் ஹு பிப்ரவரி மீ 23உயில் கனம் கலெக்டர் துரையவர்களைப் பார்த்தோம். அவர் எல்லாவற்றையும் கவனிப்பதாகச் சொன்னார். கனம் கலெக்டருக்கு சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் உண்மையை மறைத்து தனது செய்கைக்குச் சாதகமாக தப்பு ரிப்போர்ட் செய்துள்ளார். அதன்மேல் கனம் கலெக்டர் அவர்கள் 1932-ம் ஹு பிப்ரவரி மீ 27உயில் எல்.டிஸ்.சி. 1-1725/32 நம்பருள்ள உத்தரவு பிறப்பித்தார். அதில் உள்ளூர் அதிகாரிகள் சமயம்போல் நடந்தது தமக்குத் திருப்தியை அளிக்கிறதென்றும், சந்தர்ப்பம் கொடுத்தும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் அதை உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளவில்லையென்றும் தான் நேரே வந்திருந்து நடத்த எண்ணமிருந்தும் பணிச்செலவை உத்தேசித்து செய்யமுடியவில்லையென்றும் குறிப்பிட்டுள்ளார். ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் கேட்டவழி பொதுப்பாதை. இந்தியாவிற்கு சீர்திருத்தம் வழங்கப்போகும் இக்காலத்தில் எங்களை அரசாங்கத்திற்குச் சொந்தமான பொதுப்பாதையில் நடக்கக் கூடாதென ஜாதி இந்துக்கள் தடுப்பார்களானால் நாங்கள் எப்படி பொதுதேர்தலில் வெற்றிபெறமுடியும். வட்டமேஜை மகாநாட்டில் மகாத்மா போன்றவர்கள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களும் இந்துக்களே அவர்களை வேறு பிரிக்கக்கூடாதெனச் சொல்லியது அனுபவசாத்தியமாகுமா ? சர்க்கார் அதிகாரிகளாக வரக்கூடியவர்கள் அங்குள்ள நிலைமையையும் நேர்மையையும் அறிந்து நடத்தாமல் ஜாதித்துவேஷத்தால் தமக்கு உண்டான எண்ணத்திற்கு அனுகூலமாக அதிகாரத்தைத் துஷ்பிரயோகஞ் செய்யலாமா ?

"இவர் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு மாத்திரம் கெடுதி செய்கிறாரென்பதில்லை. யாருக்கேனும் எந்த வகையாலேனும் வேண்டியவராகிவிட்டாலும், அல்லது துவேஷங்கொண்டாலும் தமது அதிகாரத்தைத் துஷ்பிரயோகஞ்செய்வார். பெண்ணாடம் இராமசாமி பிள்ளை யென்பவர் ஒரு கேஸுக்கு விருத்தாசலம் வந்திருந்தார். அவர் கார் கொண்டுவந்திருந்தார். அவரது காரை கனம் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் இரண்டுநாள்கள் தமக்குச் சவாரிசெய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டார். அந்தக் காரின் டிரைவர் லைஸென்ஸில்லாமல் ஓட்டினாரென விருத்தாசலம் போலீஸ் சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் அவர்கள் பிராசிகூஷன் செய்தார். உடனே இது விஷயந்தெரிந்த சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்கள் விருத்தாசலம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டை அழைத்து அந்த கேஸை தள்ளிவிடும்படி சொன்னார். இது அங்கு தாசில்தாராயிருப்பவருக்குத் தெரியும். இவ்விஷயம் வாஸ்தவமா ? வென ம-ா-ா-ஸ்ரீ சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்களை பிரமாணிக்கமாகக் கேட்டால் தெரியக்கூடும் ; இது சென்ற ஆகஸ்ட் மாதம் நடந்தது.

"சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்களது காலண்டர் கேஸ் 1931-ம் ஹுத்து 13 நம்பர் கேஸில் குற்றவாளிகளுக்கு ஆளொன்றுக்கு ஆயிர ரூபாய்கள் வீதம் இரண்டு பேருக்கு அபராதம்போட்டு வாதிக்கு அவ்வளவும் கொடுக்கச்சொன்னார். சிக்கன காலத்தில் அபராதத் தொகை இரண்டாயிரத்தையும் வாதிக்குக்கொடுக்கலாமாவென்பதைச் சிந்திக்கவேண்டுகிறேன். இது ஜட்ஜ் கோர்ட்டுக்குப்போனபிறகு ஜட்ஜ் துரையவர்கள் சிவில் சுபாவமுடைய கேஸை இவர் எப்படி விசாரித்தாரென

ரிமார்க்கு எழுதி ஆயிரம் ஆயிரமாயிருந்ததை இருநூற்றைம்பது வீதமாக்கி ஆயிரத்தைந்நூறு ரூபாய்களைக் குறைத்துவிட்டார். இதனால், ஜட்ஜ் அவர்கள் அபிப்பிராயத்தால் இவரது மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அதிகாரம் துர்விநியோகப்படுத்தினு ரென்று புலப்படவில்லையா ?

" விருத்தாசலம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் கிரிமினல் டிரைப் குற்றவாளியொருவரை சரியானபடி கிராம அதிகாரியிடம் ஆஜராகவில்லையென தண்டித்தார். உடனே சப் டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் செய்தது தப்பென்று கனம் கலெக்டர் துரையவர்களுக்கு எழுதினார். முன்னிருந்த கலெக்டர் கனம் பீரிக்ஸ்டாக் துரையவர்கள் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்களது ரிப்போர்ட்டை நம்பி சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் தீர்ப்பை ரத்து செய்து குற்றவாளியையும் விடுதலைசெய்துவிட்டு ஐகோர்ட்டுக்கு எழுதினார். ஐகோர்ட்டார் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் செய்தது சரி, ஜில்லா மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் செய்தது தப்பு என ரிமார்க்கு செய்தார்கள். இதற்குள் கனம் பீரிக்ஸ்டாக் துரையவர்கள் லீவில் போய்விட்டார். பின்வந்த கலெக்டர் முன் கலெக்டர் தவறானமுறையில் விடுதலைசெய்தபடியால் குற்றவாளியை மறுபடியும் தண்டிக்கமுடியவில்லை. ஐகோர்ட்டாரும் ஆட்சேபிக்கிறார்களென கனம் சென்னை அரசாங்கத்தாருக்கு எழுதி சாங்ஷன் வாங்கினார். இவ்வளவிற்கும் காரணம் சிதம்பரம் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டின் தப்பான ரிப்போர்ட்டல்லவா ?

" சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா ஆபிஸில் எட் அக்கவுண்டெண்டா இருந்தவரை சிதம்பரம் தாசில்தார் இவ்வாறு சமையத்தில் அமைத்து தனது ஆபிஸுக்கு தாலூகா ஆபிஸிலிருந்து ஒரு பியூன் அனுப்பவேண்டுமெனக் கேட்டார். தினந்தோறும் தாலூகா ஆபிஸிலிருந்து ஒரு பியூன் டிவிஷனல் ஆபிஸுக்கு வந்துவேலை செய்வதானால் அக்கவுண்டெண்ட் ஜெனரல் ஆட்சேபமுண்டாகுமென்று சொன்னார். டிப்டி கலெக்டராகிய தான் சொல்லியதை மறுத்துச் சொன்னதால் டிவிஷனல் ஆபிஸருக்குக் கோபம் வந்து எட் அக்கவுண்டெண்டை மாற்றிவிட்டு விருத்தாசலத்தில் தமக்கு வேண்டியவராயிருந்த இராமசாமி ஐயங்காரவர்களை சிதம்பரத்திற்கு அழைத்துக்கொண்டார்.

" தமது வகுப்பினராகிய ஒருவர் பூவராக ஐயங்காருக்கு டெம்பரரியாக வேலை கொடுத்திருந்ததைக் காயப்படுத்தவும் இடையில் வேலை தடைப்படாதிருக்கவும் சுமார் பத்துப்பேர்களை அடிக்கடி லீவ் எடுக்கும்படி தொந்தரவு செய்திருக்கிறார். இது சம்பந்தமான ரிக்கார்டுகள் கலெக்டர் ஆபிஸிலிருக்கலாம். பூவராக ஐயங்காருக்கு கடைசிமுறை வேலையில்லாமல் நின்று மூன்று நாளானபிறகு ஒருவர் லீவ் எடுக்கச் சென்றார். அவரைக் கட்டாயப்படுத்தி பூவராக ஐயங்காருக்கு சாதகமாக மூன்று தினங்கள் முன்னுடி யெழுதிக்கொடுக்கும்படி எழுதி வாங்கினார்!

" மணியக்காரர்களை அளவிறந்த இம்சை செய்திருக்கிறார். பலர் ராஜினாமா எழுதி கொடுத்ததையும் வாங்காமல் டிஸ்மிஸ் செய்திருக்கிறார்.

" நல்ல மிராசுதாரர்களையும்கூட தாயோடு போனவனென்னும் பொருள்படும்படி கெட்டவார்த்தைகளால் திட்டுவார்.

" தங்கள் ஜாதியாராகிய தலைகொளம் ராமாநுஜாச்சாரியாரை கர்ணத்திற்கு சிபார்சு செய்யும்படி தாசில்தாருக்குச் சொன்னார். தாசில்தார் இராமநாத ஐயா அவர்கள் அப்படி செய்யவில்லை.

" அட்டெண்டர்களையெல்லாம் கடுமைப்படுத்துவார். 12 ரூபாய்ச் சம்பளக்காரர்களையெல்லாம் அடிக்கடி தூரம் தூரம் மாற்றுவார்.

" சிதம்பரம் கிராம பஞ்சாயத்து கோர்ட்டின் எல்லையாக ஏழு கிராமங்களைச் சேர்த்து போர்ட் ஸெய்ண்ட் ஜார்ஜ் கெஜெட்டிலும் 1930-ம்௵ டிசம்பர்௴ 24உ தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லா கெஜெட்டிலும் பிரசுரமாகியிருக்கிறது. சிதம்பரம் கிராம முன்சீப் கோர்ட்டும் இதனோடு சேர்ந்திருப்பதாக 1930-ம் ௵ டிசம்பர்௴ 6உயுள்ள ஜி.ஓ. நெ. 5131 உத்தரவு இருக்கிறது. 1931-ம் ௵ அக்டோபர்௴ 15உ முதல் புது எலெக்ஷன் நடந்து பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு நடக்கிறது. சிதம்பரம் டிப்டி கலெக்டரும் சிதம்பரம் கிராம முன்சீபுக்கு இனி கிராம கோர்ட்டு நடத்தவேண்டாமென்றும் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டோடு சேர்ந்துவிட்டதென்றும்

15th March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

எழுதியுள்ளார். பிறகு சிதம்பரம் மணியகாரர் கேட்டுக்கொள்ளவே அவருக்கு அனுகூலஞ் செய்ய மறு உத்தரவுவரை சிதம்பரம் கிராம முன்சிப் கோர்ட் நடத்த உத்தரவு தாலூகாவிற்கு அனுப்பினார். கிராம முன்சிபே சிதம்பரம் டவுன் கேஸை நடத்திவருகிறார் இது நியாயமா ? கிராம முனிசிபுக்கு அனுகூலஞ் செய்ய பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்டைக் கலைத்து எலக்ஷன் நடத்தலாமென ஏதோ ஒர் சட்டக்குறிப்பு வைத்தெழுகிறார். அரசாங்கத்தார் அதை அங்கீகரிக்கவில்லை. இன்னும் பஞ்சாயத்து கோர்ட்டு விஷயம் சூழ்ச்சியாக நடக்கிறது. தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் பெரிதும்அநுதாப மற்றவராகவிருக்கிறார். சென்ற தீபாவளியின்போது சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா பிராம்பட்டு கிராமத்தில் ஆதிதிராவிடரில் ஒருவர் இறந்துவிட்டார். அவர்கள் சிவபுரி வாய்க்கால் கரையில் வைக்கப்போனார்கள். அந்த ஊரார் அங்குவைக்கக்கூடாதெனத் தடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். பின்னர் பிராம்பட்டு எல்லையில் ரெவினியு இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் காண்பித்த புறம்போக்கு நிலத்தில் வைக்கப்போனார்கள். கிராமத்திலுள்ள படையாச்சிகள் அங்கு வைக்கக்கூடாதெனத் தடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். எந்தப் பக்கத்திலும் இடமில்லாமல் தவித்துக்கொண்டு என்னிடம் வந்தார்கள். நான் உடனே சென்று டிப்டி கலெக்டர் அவர்களைப் பார்த்தேன். காலையில் பார்க்கும்படி பியூன்மூலம் உத்தாவானது. காலையில் சென்று பார்த்தேன். பகல் கோர்ட்டுக்கு வரும்படி சொன்னார். கோர்ட்டிற்குச் சென்று மனுக்கொடுத்த பின்னர் மாலை 6-மணிக்கு போலீஸுக்கு உத்தரவு கொடுத்தார். மாலை ஆறுமணிக்குமேல் போலீஸார் கிராமத்திற்குச் சென்று ஒன்றுஞ் செய்யமுடியாமல் மறுநாள் அதை அடக்கஞ் செய்யும்படி நேரிட்டது. இவரது சுறுசுறுப்பின்மையினாலோ அல்லது ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள்தானே யென்றோ காலதாமதஞ் செய்தபடியால் பிணம் நாலு நாள் நாறும்படி நேரிட்டது.

" இவர் ஓர் அக்கிராகாரத்தில் குடியிருக்கிறார். என்போன்ற ஜனப்பிரதிநிதிகள் சென்றால் உடனேயும் பார்க்கமாட்டார். ஒருமணி நேரம் இரண்டுமணி நேரம் காத்திருக்கவேண்டும். அதுவும் தெருவில் நின்றபடியே காத்திருக்க வேண்டும். இவ்விஷயத்தை அரசாங்கத்தார் கவனித்துப்பார்க்க வேண்டுகிறேன்.

" இவர் நந்தனார் கல்விக் கழகத்திற்கு எவ்வளவுவரை கெடுதிகள் செய்யக் கூடுமோ அவ்வளவும் செய்து வந்திருக்கிறார். எங்களால் நடத்தப்பட்டுவரும் நந்தனார் ஸ்கூல் இன்ஸ்பெக்ஷனுக்கு வந்தவர் ரோட்டில் காரிலிருந்துகொண்டே ரிஜிஸ்டர் முதலானவற்றைத் தருவித்துப் பார்த்தார். பாடசாலை முதலானவற்றில் நுழைந்து பார்த்தால் தீட்டு வந்துவிடுமென்னும் கருத்துபோலும்.

" இவர் க்ஷயரோகமுடையவர். எங்கு போனாலும் தூ தூ என்று காரி உமிழ்ந்துகொண்டேயிருப்பார். எப்பொழுது பார்க்கப்போனாலும் சுரமாயிருக்கிறாரென்று சொல்லுவார்கள். சென்ற மாதம் இவரது தகப்பனார் காலமானபோது பத்து நாள்கள் ஆபிஸுக்கு வரவே இல்லை. வீட்டிலிருந்துகொண்டார். இவரது ரோக விஷயத்தை சர்ஜன் ஜனரலைக்கொண்டு சோதித்துப் பார்க்கவிரும்புகிறேன். இவர் ஒரு டிவிஷனல் ஆபிஸராயிருப்பதால் காரோ குதிரை வண்டியோ வேறு ஏதோ ஒரு வண்டி வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டாமா ? சிதம்பரத்தில் எந்நேரமும் பொன்னுசாமி பிள்ளையின் கார் அல்லது சிதம்பரத்தில் லீடிங் வைக்கீலாயிருக்கும் ஸ்ரீநிவாசாச்சாரியார் கார், விருத்தாசலம் சென்றால் பெண்ணாடம் இராமசாமி பிள்ளையின் கார் இவற்றை உபயோகப்படுத்துவார். அந்நியர் காரில் செல்லும் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் எப்படி நியாயம் செய்வாரென்பதைச் சிந்திக்க வேண்டுகிறேன். சிதம்பரம் ஒரு வைதீகமான இடம். இங்கு பிராமணர்கள் அதிகம். ஆதலால் சிதம்பரத்திற்கு கிறிஸ்துவகுப்பினராகவோ அல்லது முஸ்லீமாகவோ அல்லது பொதுவாக வைதீகப் பாராட்டல் இல்லாதவராகவோ இருந்தால் அப்படிப்பட்டவரை சிதம்பரம் டிப்டி-கலெக்டராகப் போடுவது நல்லது. இவரைப்பற்றி வெளிப்படையாகப் பிரஸ்தாபிக்கக்கூடாத பலதகவல்களிருக்கின்றன. இவர் சிதம்பரத்தில் இருப்பாரானால் பலருக்கு ஆபத்துமேல் ஆபத்து விளையுமாதலால் இவரை உடனே வேறு ஜில்லாவிற்கு மாற்றிமேல்கண்ட அனைத்தும் உண்மையாவென அரசாங்கத்தார் ஆராய்ச்சிசெய்து தெளியவேண்டுகிறேன்.

* Mr. R. M. PALAT:—" There are three cuts under this Demand in my name and I think it is better to treat all of them together because they bear one on the other. First of all I shall start with the Lee Commission. The Lee Commission proceeded on the assumption that it was necessary that there should be a strong representation of the European element in the Civil Service, or at any rate that the European character of the Civil Service should be preserved. Sir, I question that very assumption, because in this country this is not at all necessary, for we see in the Indian States there has been no European at all for very long periods and still the administration of many of the States like Travancore or Cochin has been a model for British India to follow. The Civil Service people who come from across the seas are unable to enter into the spirit of the people and cannot appreciate the needs of the people over whom they are set to govern. They have signally failed in their duty as regards the Reforms. If the Morley-Minto or the Montague-Chelmsford Reforms had each been introduced a few years earlier, there would have been no unrest. It was the duty of the I.C.S. to have kept their fingers on the pulse of the country and have urged on England the necessity and urgency of the Reforms. By not doing this they have shown their inefficiency and betrayed both the countries. The Home Government itself has never appointed an I.C.S. officer to be chairman or a member of any committee connected with the Reforms in India. So, the English Government accepts in principle that they are really unfit to lay down a policy. Sir, by constant repetition an impression has been created as to efficiency of the service. Sir, let us analyze this. We find that all this praise is either from civilians themselves or from persons who have been feted and dined and taken to shoots by members of this service. Such opinion is clearly one-sided, and guests are bound to be unconsciously prejudiced in favour of their hosts. Again, one of the chief reasons why we cannot accede to any of the recommendations of the Lee Commission is that the country cannot bear the expense involved. I think it was Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar who said that the increased pay and allowances of the Civil Service since about 1916 cost the country nearly two crores every year. I ask this House whether this country can bear such heavy expenditure on that service along. I see from an answer to a question put in this House on the 8th February 1926, that the additional expenditure incurred in this Province by giving effect to the Lee Commission's recommendations was estimated at about 5·75 lakhs in each of the years 1925–26 and 1926–27.

" There is another important point which has to be considered. If we have a permanent service like this, the people therein always stand in the way of Indian Reform. We are yet to see a single Civilian who is anxious to take up the cause of Indian Reform. Possibly we had a few Civilians who were willing in the olden days to give a certain amount n. of Reforms. But at the present time when it comes to a question of granting Dominion Status or Provincial Autonomy we see that they are averse to any progress in this country. And again people who serve in this country when they retire take away all the experience

15th March 1932] [Mr. R. M. Palat]

which they have gained and for which we have paid and therefore this country is not at all benefited by their long terms of service. Sir, I am not saying these things against Europeans in general. It would be a different thing if they settled in this country. Therefore the real question ought to be what is the minimum number of Europeans that we are to employ in this country and not how many we are able to admit in the services, and every individual appointment of a European should be justified on its own merits.

"Then, Sir, with regard to what is called compensatory allowance, I say an allowance of this kind is quite anomalous. I wonder what reason there is for giving such allowances. What are the problematical careers for which we are expected to pay compensation? Can any country allow such a claim? We could always get experts for any special work; then why get inefficient people to carry on expert work? We heard from Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar as to the mess some Secretary made in the Engineering department even in taking down a message. Again we know that persons with no judicial experience and who have, say, taken Zoology or Botany for their Civil Service Examination are appointed as District Judges in preference to trained lawyers who have taken degrees in Law and who possess high judicial qualifications. The Lee Commission also suggested that there might be a paucity in the number of candidates. This no longer applies. We see the same class of persons serving in other Asiatic countries, and in India as missionaries, and army men, and planters, etc., or, Sir, we can recruit them from the continent, say from France or Switzerland or Scandinavia or other countries and you will find that you could get as good men there as from England. We want foreigners only when they are experts and necessary to carry on expert work. We do not want indifferent men here giving them personal allowances and compensatory allowances for which there is no other justification except merely an excuse to give junior members of service more money at the cost of the tax-payer.

"Then there is another thing, viz., allowances for passage to Europeans which was introduced by the Lee Commission and which allowances never existed before. As regards passage to Europe there may have been some justification at a time when there were no steam ships and when it took a long time for these gentlemen to go and come back. Now if a man goes by aeroplane he gets there in seven or eight days. Therefore there is no justification as to why a man should not go and come back quickly for the sake of his health. Again many of the civilians might perhaps remain in India, because they cannot stand the English climate. Many Europeans as a matter of fact settle in South France and we see many aged Europeans settled at Coonoor and other Indian hill stations, the climate of which is healthier to them than that of England. There really is no reason why they should be given passage allowance.

"Now, as regards the education of boys and girls of these civilians, many of them who are not rich can as well educate their

boys and girls in India itself. There are so many of them, they could easily have a public school here. So there is no justification whatever as to why this should have weighed on the minds of the Commission, and they have taken this item as one of the factors in fixing the scale of pay not only of those with children but also of the others.

"Sir, these are the causes that induce one to condemn the Civil Service. I say the whole service has signally failed, because they could have got on peacefully with the people of this country, if they were really efficient. Sir, all these rules of giving allowances were introduced some ten years ago. Now the conditions have absolutely changed. Many of the popular recommendations made by the Lee Commission have not been given effect to. For instance we find they recommended that 20 per cent of the services should be provincialized, and 40 per cent should be Indian I.C.S. men and 40 should be Europeans. I do not think that the principle of giving 20 per cent of the appointments to Provincial Service people has been adhered to. You must remember that for every English man that you are appointing you are taking the bread out of the mouth of an Indian. I believe this should weigh and weigh heavily with Government in the matter of making appointments.

"I did not want to say anything about the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee. But what Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai said was that they had done their best. I would ask the country to judge. The Government of India which is notoriously retrograde recommended that there should be a reduction of 10 per cent of pay all through in the services. Whereas the Retrenchment Committee in Madras was prepared to recommend from 1 to 7 per cent only. I ask which is more true to its duties? Is it the Government of India or the Retrenchment Committee of this Province. If the Retrenchment Committee of this Province consisted of certain Members of this House, that would not by itself take away the objection involved in having officials as Chairman and Secretary. As has been pointed out it was not a Committee which was selected by this House for the purpose. I believe it was Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar that accepted the proposal made by the hon. the Finance Member that the Finance Committee should sit as a Retrenchment Committee."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I did not accept it."

*Mr. R. M. PALAT:—"Anyway it was not elected by this House for this purpose. I do not know how it was that this Committee was manœuvred into this position. Now let us see what the effect of this 10 per cent cut is. In effect it is working more hardship in the case of people who are drawing low salaries, say a clerk drawing Rs. 50 per mensem, than in the case of a high-paid man. In the case of high-paid men, this cut includes the income-tax and super-tax so that the real cut comes to much less than 10 per cent. Income-tax is quite a different head and as a matter of general policy it must not be included in the 10 per cent cut, and must not be mixed up with any general cut in the salaries.

15th March 1932]   [Mr. R. M. Palat]

"Sir, so far as this Retrenchment Committee is concerned, I am not sure that their acts have been straightforward. Of course we cannot say anything more now on this as the full recommendations are not yet before us. I am criticizing only what has already become known to the people of this Province."

(At this stage the hon. the President took the chair.)

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU:—"I would like to make *one* or two observations about the *Retrenchment Committee* and their proposals before I pass on to the cut motions which I intend to move.

"Sir, observations have been made that the Retrenchment Committee has not done its duties properly and if there were a few more Members from the opposition they would have worked wonders. I do not know whether that observation has any substance in it. The whole difficulty of the present Council is there is no effective opposition. The opposition is not doing its duties properly. We are at least bound by certain conventions and are to do our duties in a particular manner, whereas the opposition is free to move in its own way and do things in its own way. There is no good of ejaculating and interrupting. Every body in this House and outside knows how opposition is functioning. Sir Patro referred to the fact that the Retrenchment Committee had certain proposals before it and they could not go beyond it, that is to say, they were appointed for a particular purpose, i.e., to effect some retrenchments and to balance the Budget for the particular year. If the report of the Retrenchment Committee has been placed before the Council, we would have been in a position to suggest ways and methods of effecting permanent retrenchments and not retrenchments of a temporary character. It is regrettable that though the Retrenchment Committee was appointed several months ago no report of the Committee has yet been submitted. Of course I do recognize the difficulties, but all the same we have come to the Budget Session and I see no reason for not placing the final report before the House. We have a right to expect the Government to place the full material before this House so that they may be in a position to criticize or to suggest methods whereby matters may be remedied. Unfortunately that has not been done. It has been pointed out that 3-1[illegible]
retrenchment can be carried out in so many ways one of which is the p.m.
abolition of supernumerary posts and unnecessary departments. For instance, in the Education Department you have the Deputy Director of Public Instruction who, I think, is unnecessary. Recently a certain Association has placed detailed proposals pointing out that the post of Deputy Director and several clerks and others may be advantageously abolished."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"On a point of order, Mr. President, I think the question of abolishing the post of Deputy Director of Public Instruction should properly come under another Demand, but not this Demand."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU:—"I am speaking about the Retrenchment Committee generally."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Even while speaking about the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee, I have already said that hon. Members can refer only to such of the proposals as are included in the particular Demand under discussion, but not about proposals relating to other Demands."

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU:—"I now see, Sir, that the opposition is trying to do its duty effectively. I bow to your ruling and shall not refer to that subject just now.

"With regard to retrenchment generally, the duty of the Government is not to stop short at finding some temporary expedients to tide over present difficulties but to find some permanent solution of the problem of balancing Revenue and Expenditure. As the hon. the Finance Member said, there must be a settled policy if we should balance our Expenditure and Revenue. One effective method of doing it is to examine which of the departments or posts are not really needed for the efficient functioning of the administration and abolish them.

"I pass on now to another subject which I discussed during the Budget Session last year, namely, the very small number of Andhras in the Secretariat and other Headquarter offices of the Government. Mr. Simhachalam, the Member for Guntur, put a question on the subject and the Government replied that they had issued instructions to the departments. Later on in replying to the debate on my motion the hon. the Revenue Member said:

'Mr. President, Sir, the object of this motion is to draw attention to the paucity of Andhra clerks, etc., in the Secretariat. That fact, Sir, must be admitted and it seems to be due to the fact that there is comparatively a small number of Andhras who are available for appointments in the Secretariat. . . But as regards Secretariat departments, to which reference was made this morning, we have issued instructions to the departments of the Secretariat to see that more Andhras are appointed. I was not able to place the instructions on the table of the House then as I had not got them then. I have them now and with your permission I shall be glad to read them.

'The Chief Secretary has sent the following memorandum to the Secretaries to Government in the various departments.—

'"It is observed that a preponderating number of clerical appointments in the Secretariat are held at present by persons of a single linguistic area, namely, Tamilians. In view of the general demand as voiced in the Legislative Council for a fair representation of all such areas in the Secretariat, Secretaries to Government should endeavour, in making appointments in future to their departments, to see that adequate representation is given as far as practicable to representatives of other vernaculars."—Pages 275–276 of Council Proceedings, dated 17th March 1931.'

"The hon. Member also laid a statement on the table showing the number of officers and clerks in the Secretariat belonging to the various linguistic areas. That table showed there was only one Andhra Assistant Secretary—the Assistant Secretary of the Public Works Department. I understand that he is since dead. Yet, when recently there was a

15th March 1932] [Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu]

vacancy of Assistant Secretary in the Law department no attempt was made to recognize the claim of Andhras. As regards other offices also, the present state of things shows that no serious attempt is being made to give practical effect to these instructions. They only remain on paper. I ask, is it fair that this state of things should be allowed to continue for any length of time?

"As regards appointments to posts in district offices, no doubt the communal Government Order has been passed, but as things stand at present I do not think that Government Order is properly worked. Here I speak on behalf of all the communities—Muhammadans, Christians and so on—when I say that there is no use of merely passing a Government Order if Government do not exercise an effective check and see that the Government Order is properly worked by all the departments.

"Then I come to two cut motions of which I have given notice. In Budget motion No. 230 I have proposed to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,22,69,400 for Secretariats, etc., in order to express my disapproval of the proposal of the Government to amalgamate East and West Godavaris. In the next motion, No. 231, I have sought to express disapproval of the proposal of the Government to include Nuzvid and Tiruvur taluks in the district of West Godavari. Originally some of these taluks of West Godavari were in the Godavari district. Subsequently they were transferred to the Kistna district. Then the Kistna district was found to be unwieldy and from 1910 onwards District Officers reported that the district should be divided and accordingly it was divided into Kistna and West Godavari districts. A Special Officer was appointed in 1924 or 1925 to undertake this work of bifurcation. Later on, estimates for building headquarter offices at Ellore were prepared to the extent of about 30 lakhs of rupees; about 18 to 20 lakhs of rupees have already been spent on buildings. Now, all of a sudden it is decided to abolish some of the districts and this district is pitched upon as one of the districts. In this connexion I understand that the Board of Revenue was against the proposal and that the question is still under the consideration of the Government. Having examined the question for such a long time and come to the conclusion that the old district should be bifurcated, having spent so much money on buildings, where is the necessity for reopening the question again? The bifurcation was effected at a time when even though income-tax work and local board administration were removed from the hands of District Officers. It was then found that the district was too unwieldy and should be divided. After all this, I do not see why they should come forward with a proposal to re-amalgamate the two districts.

"There is also an alternative proposal which I understand found favour with the Board of Revenue, and that is to transfer the present taluks of Nuzvid and Tiruvur from the present Kistna district to the Ellore Revenue Division of West Godavari district. This again is an

unnecessary step and is sure to lead to dislocation of business in many departments. It may be that by the recent amendment of the Local Boards Act the jurisdiction of the district boards may not be affected. But that is not the only thing. The proposal of the Board seems to be that as a measure of retrenchment Nuzvid subdivision may be abolished. But nearly Rs. 80,000 were spent in Nuzvid on the construction of buildings for Government offices. Why should all that be allowed to go to waste? There is no necessity also to transfer Nuzvid to West Godavari. Nuzvid has been within the jurisdiction of the Bezwada Subdivisional Officer for many years; in fact when Nuzvid was constituted into a separate division, the offices of the Nuzvid Subdivisional Magistrate were located at Bezwada for a good number of years. If therefore the division is now proposed to be abolished, it will be easy to transfer it to Bezwada rather than to Ellore. If these taluks were transferred to Ellore, that subdivision would become unwieldy as the taluks cover a vast area. I hope the Government will consider these points and cancel their proposals."

* Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a motion which runs as follows:

> *'That to reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,22,69,400 for Secretariat and Headquarter Establishments by Rs. 100,'*

(1) to press the Government to delete the name of Viswabrahmana community from the list of backward classes and include the same in the list of depressed classes for purposes of education and services; (2) to insist on the Government the desirability of raising the age-limit of Viswabraman candidates who appear before the Service Commission examinations from 25 to 28 years and of providing proper representation to the community in public services; (3) to disapprove the futility of Government carrying on the unsound and inequitable policy of indifference towards the backward classes in the Hindu fold in general and Viswakarmans in particular in respect of services; (4) to criticize and to express dissatisfaction at the lists of the depressed classes and the backward communities maintained by them and the lack of justice, equality and legality therein; and (5) to urge for closer scrutiny and examination of the said lists.

3-30 p.m. " Sir, the points raised in this cut motion are a life and death question to my community and I request the hon. Members of the House to give due weight to the same. The population of my community in this Presidency according to the census of 1921 was 12 lakhs, i.e., it was equal to that of the Kamma community. Handicrafts are their main profession. The privileges and rights enjoyed by the community are very much less than those of the Adi-Dravidas. For, there are many educated people, public men, representatives in Legislatures, Government servants and title-holders among them while my community does not at all bear comparison with them in any direction.

15th March 1932] [Pandit Ganala Ramamurti]

The All-India Viswakarman Liberal Federation, the accredited organization of the community, which is working for its political progress ever since 1917, urged the Government in several of its memorials to delete the name of the community from the list of Backward Classes and include it in that of the Depressed Classes for the purpose of education and political rights and to ask the Labour Department to do ameliorative work for this community also. It is important to raise the age-limit of the candidates of my community appearing for the Services Commission examinations from 25 to 28 years.

" My request to include my community among the Depressed Classes may be a little surprising to some of the hon. Members, but I would like to point out that the Oriya Brahman Association of Cuttack memorialized the Bihar and Orissa Government to treat them as a Depressed Class while the Saraswat Brahman Association of Mangalore urged the Madras Government to treat them as non-Brahmans for purposes of appointments. Mr. S. Satyamurti while congratulating Diwan Bahadur P. T. Kumaraswami Chetti upon his being elected as the President of the Madras Corporation, remarked that his community, i.e., Brahmans, is a newly constituted political Depressed Class. My hon. Friend, Mr. Madhusudanan Thangal, a representative of the Nambudri Brahmans of Malabar who enjoy untold social privileges, gave notice of Resolution No. 226 on 22nd July 1931 urging the Government to treat his community either as a Depressed Class or as the Muhammadan community whichever was more profitable to them in respect of appointments.

" Sir, I crave your permission to read a few lines from the Convocation address—page 11—delivered at the Mysore University on 21st October 1921 by Dr. Sir Brajendra Nath Seal, the then Vice-Chancellor of the said University:

> 'At this cry, father Agasthya in the south side raises his bowed head and begins to retrace his steps and that great Mechanist, Viswakarma, throws up his implements in despair, for the art of civilization which Viswakarma and Agasthya initiated, threatened to crumble away in a land which has been fitted to become a Karma-bhumi, the land of works, through ages of Tapascharyya.'

" From this it is evident that mine is one of the Adi-Hindu communities. In the light of the foregoing details I submit, Sir, that there is nothing surprising in my request.

" When I urged the Government to substitute 'Brahma Sree' as honorific prefix to the names of the members of my community according to the prevailing custom instead of 'M.R.Ry.' the hon. the Member for Revenue mistook the spirit in which the request was made and threatened with the novel argument that the community intended to join the Brahman fold in civil lists and that thereby it stood to lose the preference in communal rotation in respect of services. Sir, I may be allowed to submit to the hon. Members of the House that it is not at all my intention; nor my community ever advanced the view stated by the hon. the Revenue Member. My community does not come under Brahmans because it does not form part of any of the ten divisions of the Brahmans. Nor does it come under non-Brahmans because it does

not accept the religious and social superiority of the Brahmans, having its own priests to minister unto the religious needs of the community from time immemorial. On a memorial sent by the Viswabrahmans of the West Godavari district the late lamented Mr. Cotton, the then Chief Secretary to the Madras Government, replied that the community would be treated as non-Brahmans for purposes of services and education. As my community was the last to come back to Hinduism from Buddhism the later Hindu Lawgivers classified the community as a left-hand class against Brahmans, non-Brahmans including Panchamas who were grouped as right-hand castes. Thus, my community is an independent one like the Jains, etc. But its social and political privileges are much worse than those enjoyed by the so-called Anthyajas. I am glad that the claims of the Adi-Dravidas are recognized by the Government as a political unit, but no such recognition has been accorded to various minor Hindu communities in general and Viswabrahmans in particular by the Government and the public.

"In pleading for the inclusion of my community among the Depressed Classes I would like to set forth a few details about the lists of the Depressed and the Backward Classes prepared by the Government. In answer to my interpellation No. 890 desiring for information regarding the classification of communities under the Backward and Depressed Classes the hon. the Revenue Member was pleased to lay on the table on 24th February 1932 lists of the same. I am afraid to say that the classification as furnished in the lists provokes laughter! For, Kapus of Vizagapatam and Godavari districts and Telagas in general are one and the same community, but the former were classified as 'Hill and Aboriginal tribes' and put under Depressed Classes along with Paraiyan (Adi-Dravidas of the Tamil and the Adi-Andhras of the Telugu districts) while the latter has been included under the backward communities. . . ."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—"Sir, on a point of order, I think, Sir, that you have ruled that a written speech should not be unduly long."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"I do not know whether the hon. Member has read my ruling at all. I have said that it should not be unduly long. So far his speech has not been unduly long. I hope the hon. Member will take the hint and cut short his speech."

Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI :—"In addition to this anomaly the Kapus or the Telagas are one of the important, rich and influential communities possessing landed interests in a high measure. The venerable Dr. Sir R. Venkataratnam Nayudu and Sir K. V. Reddi Nayudu and a host of others who are in high positions belong to this community. If they are to be classed as either a Depressed or a Backward community, I wonder which community is not a depressed or a backward class! I find no objection to the inclusion of the Idiga (including Setti Balija) community under the Depressed Classes but I am unable to understand why the Thattans of British Malabar who are both un-

touchables and unapproachables and who are much worse than Setti Balijas in their status of life have not been included in the list. The Velama community which contains among its members very rich landholders finds a place in the Backward Classes. The Kammas, a community of similar status has been placed in this list twice as Kammas and Kamma Varu. Similarly, Devanga and Jandra though one and the same community has been shown therein as two different communities. Rajapuri (perhaps Rajaputri), Bondili and Mahratta communities are also included in this list. Though my community does not stand comparison with any of the foregoing communities with regard to political and social privileges, it has been included in the same list under the name Kammalans (Kamasalas). I would strongly urge the Government to remove the foregoing anomalies in these days of unemployment.

"In conclusion, I beg to submit that my community deserves preferential treatment at the hands of the Government. Hence I would appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to consider the matter favourably and help my community in respect of public services."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to speak in this debate, it is because some hon. Members have spoken about the work of the Retrenchment Committee. It has become the fashion in criticizing the acts of the Government to criticize the work of our own Committees. I desire to point out that the Retrenchment Committee, as now constituted, is an elected Committee which is the Standing Committee for finance of this Council. Members of various parties in this Council have been elected to it. Unless I am mistaken, I think the constitution of this Committee was not changed even during the last election. Still this Committee's work is criticized as if it was the work of the Government. One point which I desire to emphasise is that the work of the Retrenchment Committee has not really been a negligible one. When the Retrenchment Committee first met at Ootacamund in June last year it had to formulate how much had to be cut in the expenditure of the Government. The Retrenchment Committee resolved that a cut of Rs. 1½ crores in the normal expenditure of the Government should be made in the Budget and the Committee's forecast was not wrong. When it came to the end of its deliberations, it found that a cut of Rs. 2 crores had been made. It became possible thereby for the Madras Government to show a balance of Rs. 10 lakhs in its Budget and that at a time of great economic stress, when other Provinces were not able to balance their Budgets and had huge deficits. When this aspect is taken into consideration, some of the remarks passed against the Retrenchment Committee are really unwarranted. The Retrenchment Committee held about 46 meetings from the end of June to about the middle of March. Some of its work was directed to the overhauling of all the departments with a view to retrenchment, to a review of the policy of the various departments. For example, I might say that the Retrenchment Committee recommended in the case of the Forest and Public Works Departments a policy which will save much to the Government and which will, at the

same time, improve the income in those departments. The work of the Retrenchment Committee did not consist in the mere abolition of a few posts or a mere cut in salaries but in a thorough overhauling of the system whereby it has become possible for the Government to review the work of the various departments and to initiate new policies wherever they are needed.

"Reference has been made to the cut in salaries and one hon. Member referred to the fact that the Retrenchment Committee had recommended a cut of only about 7 per cent, while the Madras Government had recommended a cut of about 10 per cent. I may give this information to the House that the Retrenchment Committee thought that a graded cut was proper and that a uniform cut would fall heavily on the subordinates in the various departments; the Committee suggested a graded cut from 1 to 7 per cent, the highest cut was not to include income-tax. So, the recommendation of the Committee was not a retrograde one as some hon. Members seemed to think.

"I desire also to draw the attention of the House to another work which the Retrenchment Committee has done. Till recently one of the great bills which the Government had to foot was that of allowances. The amount of allowances which the Government had to pay had reached about Rs. 28 lakhs a year and there was no authorized list of allowances in existence. The Retrenchment Committee asked the various departments to send up a list of allowances and to justify the payment of those allowances. After a full consideration of the question, the Committee recommended a new system by which the allowances would be reduced to a large extent and there would be uniformity with regard to the payment of allowances. I might inform the House that one of the first acts of the Retrenchment Committee was to cut its own allowance for, by reducing the daily allowance of the Legislative Council Members from Rs. 10 to Rs. 7 it reduced its daily allowance also.

15 n. "It set to work with a view to business and very often it had to meet difficult situations. Some Members of this House referred to the need for restoring stipends, others were not for closing down institutions. It is not possible to get unanimity of opinion on these matters; but the Retrenchment Committee had in their meetings, a full discussion of all the subjects that were brought up for discussion and much of their work was made possible because of the thorough investigation that had been made by the Secretary, Mr. Tottenham, and the well-informed memoranda that he was able to present to the Retrenchment Committee.

"Reference has also been made that the Retrenchment Committee was led by its Chairman. I desire to say that it is a most incorrect statement. I am prepared to state in this House that there was no restraint on individual members in either expressing their opinion or in voting. As a matter of fact, I know of occasions when Members of the Committee voted down the Chairman and one or two others who voted with him. (An hon. Member: 'Really!') I may also draw attention to this fact that the final report of the Committee was drawn

up at meetings presided over by one of the non-official Members of the Committee, the Chairman not being present. (An hon. Member: 'Who is that gentleman?')

"Before I conclude, Sir, I would ask the house to judge the work of the Retrenchment Committee by the result, viz., Madras has to-day got a balance of Rs. 10 lakhs in its budget when other Provinces have got large deficits and find themselves unable to balance their budgets."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Mr. President, Sir, at this stage of the debate I do not want to indulge in any communal criticisms as my hon. Friend Mr. Ganala Ramamurti has done; but I will only say that at a time like this when there is a great political upheaval in the country, I do not think it is advisable for him to come forward with a plea for inclusion in the Depressed Classes his community known as Viswakarma Brahmans.

"Now, Sir, coming to the token cut which I have given notice of, (viz., with a view to impress the necessity of retaining Nilgiris as a district), I would bring to the notice of the Government certain factors which they have to consider before coming to a definite conclusion on this question. Sir, generally, Nilgiris is considered to be a light revenue district, while the neighbouring district of Coimbatore is considered to be a very heavy one. The proposal now before the Government is to abolish the Nilgiris as a district and to amalgamate it with Coimbatore. Sir, there are various difficulties in the way, and the proposal, if given effect to, will cause great inconvenience to the people. If this is purely a question of retrenchment, there are other ways in which it can be effected. There are two I.C.S. officers working in the Nilgiris district, one as Collector and the other as Sub-Collector. If the Government is really out to make retrenchment, I do not think there is much opposition in my district to abolish the Sub-Collector's post and to amalgamate it with the Collector's post, for various reasons. The Sub-Collector has no original powers, and the Collector alone has got those powers. Secondly, Sir, the entire criminal work is now being conducted by the Sub-Collector. Since the Government wish to retrench, all these works that are now being carried on by the Sub-Collector can be conveniently transferred to the District Collector. Formerly, the District Collector was the official President of the District Board; but recently the work has been taken up by a non-official member of the Board and the Collector and the Deputy Collector have been relieved of that work. So, the criminal work can be conveniently entrusted to the Collector.

"Sir, as regards the assignment of land in the Nilgiris, the district has got its own rules in the matter, which differ greatly from those in Coimbatore or in Malabar. So also, the tenure obtaining now in the Nilgiris is of two kinds; areas that are bordering the Malabar have got a different tenure while the rest of the Nilgiris have got a tenure which is not similar to that in Coimbatore. So, any officer who may be deputed from either of these two districts to the Nilgiris will find himself in great difficulty in matters of this kind. Moreover, Nilgiris

is considered to be the health resort of many of the Princes not only of this Province but also of many Provinces in Northern India. At a time like this when the whole of India is faced with a political problem, I think an officer with the status of a Collector should be stationed in the Nilgiris, rather than an ordinary I.C.S. officer. If the Government are however going to decide that the district should be amalgamated with Coimbatore, there will be a lot of expenditure to be incurred for removing the records and other things which are at present maintained in the Nilgiri District Collectorate. This will mean more expenditure and not retrenchment. Moreover, Sir, the Government have got several good buildings in the Nilgiris, and if it is decided to abolish the district, all these buildings will have to be rented at a very low rate, and consequently there will not be much retrenchment in the direction desired, but only some loss of revenue.

" Besides, Sir, a part of the Coimbatore district, I mean the Avanashi taluk, wherein the Mettupalaiyam railway station is situated can be added to Nilgiris. Recently the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was brought into force; the motor vehicles running from Nilgiris to Mettupalaiyam have had to pay double taxes, that is, both for the Nilgiris District Board and for the Coimbatore District Board. If it is thought advisable to make the amalgamation, I would rather prefer that the Avanashi taluk including Mettupalaiyam should be added to the Nilgiris, so that the District Collector of the Nilgiris may have full work in that district alone. So much, Sir, for retaining the Nilgiris as a separate district.

" Sir, on this occasion, I should also like to bring to the notice of the Government, the attitude of the subordinate officials in the district towards the depressed classes in regard to the assignment of land and in other matters relating to the depressed classes. Sir, I have got with me now two instances where the village munsifs played a very wrong part as officials. I would like to instance the village of Srirangampatti in the Tiruppattur taluk where the depressed classes have been living for more than 50 years. Recently, to the misfortune of the depressed classes, the village munsif brought the land which these people were enjoying to auction and a friend of the village munsif took that land in auction. These poor people did not know anything about it until they were asked to vacate the land. These unfortunate people have thereby been driven to take action in a Court of law. So also in another place known as Vikravandi-Avadayarpetu near Villupuram, the depressed classes were having their burial ground very near their cheris. Without the knowledge of these people, Sir, the village munsif there brought the land to auction and afterwards the old graves were levelled and then alone the people came to know that the land had been put to auction. So, that matter also has gone to a Court of law. All these things, Sir, are the mischiefs played by the lower subordinates in the Revenue Department, and I would request the hon. the Revenue Member to give a patient hearing to such things and bring them to the notice of the District Collectors, so that they may take some personal and keen interest in matters of this sort.

15th March 1932] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

" Sir, my friend Mr. Sahajananda dealt at length with the various atrocities which my community people are subjected to in the Chidambaram taluk. I would earnestly appeal to the hon. the Revenue Member to consider these matters, particularly the incidents at Parampet and Nanjamthutivaikai.

" These are instances which must receive the close attention of the Government; otherwise I am afraid these poor people will not have a good time of it in those parts. "

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Mr. President, neither do I desire to run deep into the proposals made by the Retrenchment Committee as my previous speakers have sufficiently dealt with it, nor do I wish to enter into conflict with the speeches made by other hon. Members; but I desire to draw the attention of the Government to some important things to which my attention has been drawn.

" Sir, the pay of the village officers and village menials is considered to be very low for the very responsible and hard services they are rendering to Government. They have been making a strong agitation for a very long time to have their salaries raised and their status improved, but in vain. The Government are offering some excuse or other and are casting their requests to the high winds. In the ryotwari villages, there are about 14,909 karnams and 16,382 village munsifs, 20,597 talaiyaris and 28,380 vettis apart from nirgantis, etc. In the proprietary estates, there are about 8,111 village accountants, 9,055 headmen, 11,393 talaiyaris and 1,214 vettis. This large section of loyal servants are already very much dissatisfied with the present inadequate emoluments they are paid for their services, and yet the pity is that the Retrenchment Committee has taken upon itself the responsibility for making them grieve a little more. In a communiqué which has been issued by the Retrenchment Committee some time back, I find that the pay of the village officers and village menials are recommended to be cut short by As. 8 and As. 4. But at page 163 of the Civil Budget Estimates, in putting the figures under Ryotwari Village Service—Pay of Establishments—it is noted as 'Deduct—Savings due to 10 per cent cut . . . *minus* Rs. 100.

" Sir, this makes me doubt whether the Government desire to give effect to the proposal or not. Perhaps this token cut of minus Rs. 100 has been brought here so that the Government may take the opportunity of cutting short the pay of these officers if they so desire. But I like to state that the Government will be committing a great blunder if they do so. Sir, this set of officers are put to much hardship even in other matters. The treatment that they receive at the hands of the higher authorities is a thing which every one ought to pity. These village headmen and karnams are no doubt respectable people in their villages and I think every hon. Member of this House who has come here by election might have had personal knowledge of the fact, that these people really wield influence and are respected in their areas. But these poor village officers are treated even by the Revenue Inspectors as their own domestic servants, and made to dance to the tunes of 4 p.m.

the latter; when such is the case, it is unnecessary for me to speak of the treatment they receive from Tahsildars and Deputy Collectors. Even the peons of the Revenue Department think that village officers are inferior to them and begin to treat them in a contemptuous way. So Sir, I crave your leave to bring to the notice of the hon. the Revenue Member that the treatment given to these officers is not proper and that Government must see that these officers are treated in a more honourable way.

"With regard to the travelling allowance paid to village officers, I have also to make a complaint and request the Government to consider the matter. I understand these village officers are paid only at the rate of three pies per mile and that too on particular occasions. The Tahsildars and even the Revenue Inspectors summon these officers as often as possible—in some cases for no purpose except for their own private business—they send in summons at their pleasure and ask them to appear before them immediately. But these poor people are not paid even their travelling allowance and very often they have to spend a good lot of what little salary they receive, on such journeys. During the jamabandi time they are asked to appear in the taluk headquarters and ordered to remain there for a considerably long time—at times even for 15 or 20 days together. They are paid only a small sum for this as jamabandi allowances and even this little that they get is to be spent on the clerks, peons, etc., with whom they have to come into contact in having their accounts checked. Hence it becomes necessary that these officers have to set apart their salary of one or two months for expenses during the jamabandi period. So Mr. President, with your permission I desire to invoke the attention of the hon. the Revenue Member to the fact that the travelling allowance and jamabandi allowance paid to these officers are very meagre and they must be properly compensated. One other thing to which I want to draw the attention of the Government is that the village officers in Salem district are not allowed to enjoy the hereditary right as those in other districts, and I request that this special disability in the case of Salem may be removed.

"Sir, with regard to the village officers in the proprietary estates, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the following fact. And that is, these village officers are not able to understand that the proprietors of the estates where they are employed are their superiors. This sort of false notion on the part of the village officers and menials, makes the position of the proprietors much worse as they are belittled in the eyes of the ryots of their estates, and the business of the estate cannot effectively be carried on. So, what I require the Government to do is that they must make each village officer and village menial in proprietary estates understand that the proprietor of the estate is equally important, though not more, as their Tahsildar or Depnty Collector and that they must be made to obey implicitly the orders of the proprietor in matters relating to the administration of the estate. In this connexion, I would also urge upon the Government that they should consider the matter and give some powers to the proprietors of

15th March 1932] [Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Goundar]

estates to inflict some sort of punishment on the village officers and other menials in the proprietary estates, so that they may be obedient to the proprietors, and the latter may smoothly carry on the administration of their estates.

"Apart from these things relating to the village officers, I would like to mention one other thing. The water in the important channels of Namakkal taluk of my district has failed during the year 1931 for a considerable length of time on two or three occasions, but I do not know whether the district authorities have taken pains to enquire into the matter and arranged to give some relief for the loss that the people has sustained on this account. I personally know, Sir, that in the Judarpalayam channel in Namakkal taluk water has failed on more than one occasion for a considerably long duration, and the crops of many people have been spoiled. Even the landowners who have given their land in that area for rent were forced to cancel the lease amount for one or two periods. When I put a question to the Government on the subject they coolly say that no appreciable loss has been sustained. They gallantly site the report of the Superintending Engineer. The Superintending Engineer generally bases his report on the information received from the subordinates who look after the channels and those subordinates cannot be expected to give a true account of the real situation because of the fear that they will be taken to task for not being vigilant in their work. There is no use of Government relying only on that information—let them hear from me, Sir, when I say that very huge losses have been sustained by the people, and many have to lose what they have invested to raise the crops for one or two seasons. So, what I want to urge in this connexion is that the Government shall be pleased to order the Collector to enquire into the matter fully and allow the people of those parts at least to get some remission. I hope the Government will take seriously into consideration what I have placed before them, and find an early solution to my requests."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" Listening to this debate one cannot escape the feeling that at least with some Members, the Retrenchment Committee appears to have been sitting in their brains. Next, perhaps, only to the hon. the Home Member with his Police portfolio, during the past year whenever occasion arose and sometimes even when no occasion offered itself, the Retrenchment Committee has come in for a lot of criticism, criticism, which I feel constrained to state, has often been unrestrained, and if I may say so with respect, even ill-considered, and in fact so ill-considered that the direct statement made by my hon. Friend Sir Patro this morning cannot be considered to be unjustifiable, I realize, Sir, that in all these matters each one of us has his own pet schemes and preconceived ideas. Each one of us feels that if we were in the place of X or Y we would be able to do the work much better than the other man. I am sure that I have got my own notions and ideas of things and there are moments when I feel that if I were only put in charge of this Department or that Department, I could do the work ever so much better than is being done

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [15th March 1932

now. But, when once I am there, the question is whether I would be able to do it exactly in accord with my long cherished theories. In the comforts of an easychair, untrammelled by facts and figures, you have got your own theories, theories which you can go on developing in your own minds, but when you are shackled with facts and figures, then the difficulty comes in, then the restrictions stress themselves on you. For instance, I should, as I am now advised, wholeheartedly support the proposal of the hon. Member, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, when he said that the salary of all officers might be reduced to what it was prior to 1914. His reasoning on this point seems to be perfectly sound and I am sure the reasoning is so obvious that it would have suggested itself to every Member of the Retrenchment Committee as well.

"While on the other hand there was another suggestion of his, to which I should most emphatically express my dissent. He said, 'why not make the Collector the income-tax officer as well as in days of old'. Well, I have had experience of the days when Collectors were income-tax officers—at that time he (Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar) was in service and therefore would not have had any experience of the system—and I might state that I should prefer to be assessed by an income-tax officer who is able to look into my accounts personally, rather than by the Collector, who would have to base his assessment on the scrutiny of a Rs. 35 clerk of the Collectorate, a thing which would be inevitable, seeing the Collectors have such an enormous amount of work to turn out even in these days, when he has been shorn of his income-tax powers, relieved of the duties of a district board president and of so many other activities. I refer to these matters only to show that it is possible for each and every one of us to have our own pet theories and ideas about affairs in general, which theories and ideas we may not be able to give effect to when we are faced with the realities of the situation. It is just this fact that I should like hon. Members to bear in mind when they begin to criticise the Retrenchment Committee, a Committee set up by ourselves. Statements have been made the full implications of which, have, I am afraid, not been realized by the hon. Members who made them. For instance, some hon. Members have stated that the Retrenchment Committee—the majority of which at least is non-official and the larger number of whom are elected representatives of this Council—was not able to do its best because the Finance Member, an official, was the Chairman. What is the implication underlying that statement? Does it not suggest that the representatives whom you chose as Members of your Finance Committee, to be the custodians of the financial affairs of the Province for the year and whom you expected to have a check and control over the proposals and schemes that might be suggested by the Finance Department, have been led by the nose by the officials, that they have no back-bone of their own, that they have no capacity to think for themselves and that they have voted one way or the other just as the hon. the Finance Member desired them to decide? Could any other interpretation be placed than

15th March 1932] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

this, when a statement is seriously made that the Retrenchment Committee was not able to effect any very appreciable cut in the expenditure of the Province just because the Finance Member, an official, happened to be its Chairman? And these criticisms have been levelled at what stage? It is not as if we have the report of the Committee before us, it is not as if we have had occasion to study the various proposals, or to consider them on their merits. No; we have not yet got the report of the Retrenchment Committee. Criticise the Government by all means for the delay in presenting to us the report, attack the Government for not placing us in possession of the necessary facts in time for the discussion of the Budget. But remember, that it is premature to begin to criticise the Retrenchment Committee at a stage when we have not got the report before us. I do not say that, just because a Committee has been elected by this House and has been constituted out of its own members, that Committee is above all criticism. But let us be in possession of their conclusions, before we begin the criticism. It may then be possible for us to consider and give our particular attention to the various proposals which that Committee have made; we should then be able to say that this recommendation is right or that the other one cannot be accepted. For instance, speaking for myself and about my own district—though it does not relate to this particular Demand—just by way of illustration, I might perhaps say that the Kumbakonam College might well be done away with and that the Medical School at Tanjore ought to be retained. We will then be able to consider each proposal of the Committee on its own merits and it will be possible for us to say that all these recommendations give us only so much of saving; and with that much we shall not be able to balance our Budget or place our finances on a sound position. That will be the time for us to criticise the Retrenchment Committee and if then you find that it deserves condemnation, by all means do so. Only let us be fair in our criticism; let us be just in our attacks. 4-15 p.m.

"One word, Sir, about the motion of which I have given notice. It refers to the audit system of Local Fund accounts. I speak with the experience of an ex-president of a district board. Audit is very necessary though rather troublesome. Surcharge is also essential though a greater nuisance. It provides an useful check; but at the same time, Sir, surcharge can be made very much of a fetish, presidents of district and taluk boards who go there with no expert knowledge of things and who have no idea of what accounting is and who have to rely on their subordinates as far as these accounts go can be easily influenced by the threat of surcharge to such an extent as not to be able to do things as efficiently as otherwise they might. I do not propose or suggest that the right of surcharge should be done away with. It is a very essential check on presidents of local boards even though they may be performing honorary work and are mere non-officials. But the present system results in the surcharge certificate being issued when the whole work has been carried out, when the accounts have been closed, and when a year or about 18 months have

elapsed, when he least expects it. The president receives a registered envelope and is surprised to find that he is called upon to explain why he should not be surcharged for Rs. 25,000 or Rs. 30,000. It sometimes happens that this notice is received when one is actually out of office. It did occur once in my own case, though I might state that I was not very much inconvenienced, thanks to the courtesy of the present president, who allowed me a perusal of the relevant records. So the purpose of my present motion is only this: that before a final bill in respect of any particular work is passed, when the deposits given by the contractors and other amounts due to contractors are still in the possession of the local boards, the Audit Department may be asked to check and pass the bill so that if there are any recoveries to be made the non-official presidents may be in a position to effectively recover the amount and they may not be unnecessarily exposing themselves to the danger of surcharge at a time when they may not be able to recover any amount, illegally or unauthorizedly paid. Instances do happen where under bona fide mistakes amounts were excessively paid. I can give an instance where estimates prepared by the Engineering Department of the District Board, were sent to the Government for being checked; the Government checked it; the experts looked through it and scrutinized it; the estimates went back to the District Board; the work was carried out; the preliminary bills were paid; and 1½ years after the work was completed, it was found out that in preparing the original estimates a small double provision had been made. This had passed through expert hands. What can the poor president do under those circumstances? If in a case like that, the final bill before it is passed is audited and finally passed by the Local Fund Audit, the president will not be unnecessarily exposing himself to this danger."

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Mr. President, Sir, I shall take this opportunity of dealing with the subject of the motion which stands in my name, namely, the separation of the Judicial and the Executive functions. That motion refers to the question which in figurative language may be said to be as old as the hills. At any rate, it is as old as the existence of the Reformed Council in this country. Years come and years go; but this question stands and continues to be in the same position as ever. Time after time, every year in the course of the Budget discussions, this question is brought out; speeches are made and very sympathetic replies are given by the Government; and the question is shelved once again until the next annual Budget discussion. Recently, Sir, Lord Hewart, the Chief Justice of England. has written a very important book under the title of *New Despotism*. The subject of the book refers to the encroachment or the appropriation by the Executive of the powers and rights which properly belong to the Judiciary. If that obtains in a country like England where the public opinion is so alert and so competent and no less a person than the Chief Justice of England has characterized it as a new despotism, I can hardly conceive of any

15th March 1932] [Mr. Daniel Thomas]

language to describe the importance of that question in a country like India. Here it has been accepted by all parties whatever their shade of political opinions may be that the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive is of absolute and of indispensable importance. But, yet, while accepting the soundness of the reform which is sought for, the fact that no action at all has been taken during all these years and that even no beginnings have been made towards securing the reform that is needed, indicates an extraordinary condition of affairs which could not be justified. The explanation given by the Government of Madras is that it is a question concerning All-India and as such has to be gone into by the Imperial Government and that it is for them to come to some definite conclusion in this matter. It is said that the Madras Government are powerless to move in the matter. I say, Sir, if the Madras Government take a keener, a more alert and lively interest in the matter, if they realize that they are responsible for the administration of justice in this Province and that they must fairly and competently discharge their responsibilities and functions, they would be putting greater and more continuous pressure upon the Imperial Government to give a definite lead in the matter. I believe, Sir, that the present events have given rather a painful urgency for the introduction of this Reform. We know at the present moment various Ordinances have been promulgated and the Judiciary and the Police have had to deal with various cases and offences under the Ordinances. I believe, Sir, that it is a matter which will be accepted by all parties and by all people that in the promulgation of these Ordinances and in the maintenance of Law and Order in the special circumstances created by these Ordinances, the Magistracy has been to a very large extent brought into close co-operation with the Police. The Magistracy and the Police act hand in hand in the carrying out of these Ordinances and the maintenance of Law and Order. How can you expect, how can you reasonably and humanly expect the Magistrate to divest himself of all bias in the administration of justice in connexion with the law which he is called upon to maintain on the executive side? I shall point out one or two instances. There is a good deal of popular apprehension that the Magistrate is not acting in the way in which a dispassionate Magistrate will act. Now, the Magistrate under the provision of the law has to classify the prisoners convicted by him with reference to the jail treatment that is to be accorded to them, namely, A, B, or C class. In the last Non-Co-operation Movement which took place some months ago, very fair and considerate treatment in the matter of classification was given. There is a general feeling—I know of cases in which this feeling can be absolutely justified, but I cannot speak of other cases—that in the present day, the Magistrates are not as considerate in the matter of this classification as they were in the olden days. It is not due to the fact that they exercise their discretion wrongly, but they are given a cue from higher quarters that they ought to be rigorous and more severe in the matter of treating the politicals. I know a case in Tinnevelly. A lad dictator of the Congress was convicted during the last

Civil Disobedience Movement and was put in 'A' class. But now, Sir, he was once more convicted for picketing and was placed in 'C' class. I can understand a small margin say from 'A' to 'B' class, but not this long downward jump from 'A' to 'C' class in about six months."

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, is not the hon. Member wandering far from the subject of the motion under consideration of the House, when he is referring to the classification of prisoners?"

* Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" I was mentioning this point to show that the public mind should be fully disabused of any possible misapprehension as to the policy underlying the classification of political prisoners and I must say that also in the collection of fines the people should have confidence that the Magistrates are exercising their legal and lawful discretion and not merely following the cues given to them by their superiors. I may say, Sir, that at the present time it is more than ever necessary that the question of the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive should be immediately considered and some beginnings should be made in this matter.

" Sir, we see that various questions come up before the House concerning particular communities or a particular section of the people, it may be the question of retrenchment, it may be the question of communal representation. These naturally are questions which intimately and personally and very closely touch certain sections of the people. It is within the experience of hon. Members of this House that with reference to such questions, questions and interpellations are raised. But with reference to the general questions which affect all sections of the public and about which all parties and all shades of political opinion are agreed, there has not been that amount of interest. They should not be passed over, they are questions which immediately affect the life and interest of all sections of the communities in the
4-30 p.m. Province. I submit, Sir, as a responsible House and as standing on the eve of the full Responsible Government, we should consider this question of general well-being affecting the Province at large. I submit, in this connexion, that nothing is more important and more vital to the foundation of well-being in the Province than the shaping of a fair and even-handed administration of Justice. Not only that, we should create a confidence in the minds of the people at large that a dispassionate and fair administration of justice could be obtained in the country. I submit it is unnecessary to deal with this matter any further. I only submit that considering the times that we are passing through and considering the length of time for which this question has been pending the consideration of the Government of Madras and the Government of India it is high time that a beginning should be made in the matter. I know this is a time of financial stringency, and so I do not ask all on a sudden the whole thing should be introduced to the full extent. But I only ask that a beginning should be made and be gradually kept up so that in the course of a few years the object may be attained."

15th March 1932]

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Order, order, I may point out to hon. Members that the Demand is to be put to vote at 5-5 p.m. The hon. the Revenue Member may require 20 to 25 minutes to reply. The hon. Finance Member also wants to speak on this Demand. So I would advise the hon. Member to cut short his speech."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I think it my duty to support the motion moved by Mr. Daniel Thomas. I need not say much on that matter as he has already dwelt at length on it. So I will content myself with a few words. Sir, the senior Revenue officers are given criminal powers. Most of them, except the Stationary Sub-Magistrate are touring officers; they go about from one place to another holding courts and disposing of cases. It sometimes happens that the Magistrates or the Subdivisional Magistrates or District Magistrates go late to the place where they have posted their cases, and when they go there they either adjourn the cases or take them up and sit late till 8 or 9 at night. Consequently the parties and pleaders are put to much inconvenience. If the case is adjourned, it means a heavy financial loss to the clients, as they have to pay their pleaders whether the case is taken up or not.

" Another factor which necessitates the separation of the Executive from the Judiciary is this. The Revenue officers are over-burdened with Revenue work and so they are unable to pay undivided attention to the cases on the file. They are also not well-versed in law. Most of the judgments of the Magistrates are reversed and so justice is not meted out to the extent it is required. There is also another reason. Except the I.C.S. officers, all officers stay in a district for a pretty long period, so much so they become familiar with the parties and the people who frequent the court. Consequently, if the man is rich, the Magistrate is bound to respect him; and if the man is poor, his case will be dismissed. Consequently there is miscarriage of justice. If one of the parties is a rowdy—out of fear for the rowdy—the Magistrate throws out the case. Therefore I suggest that Munsifs should be appointed on a lower grade and pay and they should be asked to try these cases before they are invested with civil powers. They will find it easy to handle sessions cases when they are posted as Assistant and Sessions Judges in their old age."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Is not the hon. Member anxious to hear the hon. Members of Government? "

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Yes, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Finance Member."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Sir, time is rather pressing and I only propose to touch on one or two points raised in the debate with which I am concerned. My Colleague, the hon. Member for Revenue in his reply will deal with the rest. First as regards the post of Curator of the Records Office. On this subject, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar wanted to know what was the justification for retaining this post. Another Member, I think, Mr. Khalifullah has tabled a separate motion on this

subject. The necessity for appointing a senior officer in charge of the office was explained, I think, in full in March 1930, when the appointment was created. Broadly speaking the position is that we have in the Record Office in Madras a very large mass of historically valuable records. They include about 8,000 bundles of old records of Revenue districts and of the Board of Revenue covering the period from 1708 to 1856. These bundles have never been properly examined or even listed. Nor has their historical value been appraised by any competent authority. On the other hand their condition is such that they are rapidly deteriorating, the paper is rotting and crumbling away, and unless steps are taken to examine, analyse and preserve them this extremely valuable mass of historical records will probably in a few years be lost altogether. The most effective way in which such records are preserved is by selecting from among them all documents of historical and other importance which can be printed and thus preserved in a permanent form. For that work, particularly for the selection and editing of the documents that are to be printed, we want an officer with special knowledge both of the history, especially the Revenue history of the Province, and the land revenue system, and one with special aptitude for dealing with this historical work approaching the character of research. We have selected Mr. Macqueen, the present Curator, as an officer possessing these special qualifications. When last year the question of suspending this work as a measure of retrenchment was considered, we found that we were not justified in stopping it altogether. When the question of continuing Mr. Macqueen after March 1932 came up for consideration, we thought it better to take the advice of the Retrenchment Committee in the matter. In due course the matter came up before the Retrenchment Committee, and they have recorded the following resolution:— 'As regards the Curator himself, they consider that he should be retained, at any rate, until his present work connected with the examination of the old revenue records has been completed, after which the position might be reviewed.' This recommendation is under the consideration of the Government, and I may say we shall probably be guided by the Retrenchment Committee in that matter."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"How long more will Mr. Macqueen be continued in the present post?"

* The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—"Well, the appointment was for two years; I can't tell you when it will come to an end. At any rate the question will be raised when reasonable progress in the work has been made.

"Then, as regards the question of revision of salaries, several speakers asked: 'Why the salary should not be reduced in view of the fall in the cost of living? What is Government going to do about the scale of pay for the future entrants?' On this subject I share the regret expressed by Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, that the report of the Retrenchment Committee should not have been in the hands of the Members of this House before this debate took place. We made every effort to get it out in time, but it was not possible to do so. I hope in a few days it will be in the hands of the Members. It is already in print.

15th March 1932] [Mr. H. G. Stokes]

" The reasons why Government are unable to apply immediately any reduced scales of pay to existing officers have frequently been explained, and so it is scarcely necessary to go into it again. Broadly speaking, the reason is under the rules governing their service, officers have the right in case the pay of their post is altered to elect either to remain on the old scale or to go on to the new. The 10 per cent cut which has been applied to serving officers is an emergency measure and is authorized as a temporary expedient. But as regards future entrants Government have a free hand—the whole question of the future scale of pay has been raised by the Retrenchment Committee, who have suggested, not indeed a detailed scale for each and every service but more or less standard scales of pay which will represent a serious considerable reduction in the salary bill of the future, if they are adopted. That question is one of the things to which we shall address ourselves immediately in connexion with the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee.

" Several speakers have alluded to the unfairness of the 10 per cent cut and have urged that it would have been better to have adopted a sliding scale. This topic has been several times discussed in the House, and in my reply to the general discussion on the Budget debate, I have recently explained the reasons which compelled Government to adopt it. I do not know that I should weary the House by repeating this explanation. The necessities of our financial position compelled us in order to achieve a balanced Budget to follow the example of a uniform cut adopted by the Government of India and other Provincial Governments in this matter. Several speakers have been disposed to blame the Retrenchment Committee for the adoption of a scale of pay which they consider to be unfair. As has been observed by Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai, this 10 per cent was not the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee.

" In respect of the special pays, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar said, they should be reduced. He also inquired what was meant by the personal pay and generally betrayed what in him was a surprising ignorance of these matters in view of the fact that he himself had served for over thirty years in Government service. The question of special pays has received very *special* attention from the Retrenchment Committee, and if their proposals are accepted they would result in reducing the cost of these by about 33 per cent or more. Already the Government have examined the proposals of the Committee to some extent, and so far as they have accepted the recommendations, it represents a saving of over three-fourths of a lakh a year, or to be more accurate Rs. 80,000.

" Then, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar wanted to know why an expert adviser in Railway matters is retained. A special pay of Rs. 250 was used to be given to the Senior Government Inspector for services as Adviser to Government on Railway matters. That has now been abolished."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" There are special pays amounting to Rs. 1,500 or so; may I know why they are retained? "

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" I can't tell you that now, unless I want to examine them in detail.

4-45 p.m. " Then, Mr. Pannirselvam, I understand, urged that there should be a pre-audit of the local fund works bills. We should be prepared to examine that suggestion, but I may point out that the trouble is that it would mean very considerable increase of staff which we cannot afford, or else considerable delay in getting the bills passed and the payments made to the contractors.

" Then, another topic that has been urged is that, taking into consideration the fact that the 10 per cent cut includes the sur-tax, the result is that it means a cut graduated in the wrong direction. Well, it is rather a complicated subject to deal with in a few words; but I may point out that the income-tax may be regarded in its application to Government servants as a graduated cut in salaries under which the higher-paid pay more than the lower-paid. The Government of India have ordered—it is their order, not ours—that the sur-taxes should be absorbed in the 10 per cent cut. The fact is that the cut imposed on Government servants is a further fixed reduction in their income in addition to the graduated tax scale, and roughly speaking, the two together would work out to over one-fifth of their income in the higher scales rising, in some cases, to something like one-fourth. I presume that the Government of India did not intend to place so abnormal a burden on their men and this is the reason why they have taken the course they did. The effect would otherwise have been that Government servants would suffer a reduction in income very much greater than the ordinary individual.

" In one direction the debate developed into an attack on the Retrenchment Committee, suggesting that they were dominated by the presence of myself as Chairman. It was also said that if one or two Members of the Opposition had been there, the result would have been very different. One speaker went to the length of saying that the retrenchment effected could have been not two and a quarter crores but five crores. This is the sort of statement which, in my view, is strongly to be deprecated coming from responsible persons such as Members of this Council. I have already dealt with this point in my general debate and the non-official spokesman of the Retrenchment Committee Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai, has very effectively repudiated the suggestion. Mr. Basheer Ahmed permitted himself to say that the official element usually got things passed by a majority. Seeing that the Retrenchment Committee consists of eleven persons of whom only the Chairman is an official, I think the statement can justly be characterized as absurd.

" As regards the objection that the Retrenchment Committee should have had two Members of the Opposition, it seems to me perhaps sufficient to remark that it already contains three Members of the Opposition so that it can hardly be said that the Opposition was not represented. Even with two additional Members I do not think we can assume that there would have been so great a difference in the committee's recommendations.

15th March 1932] [Mr. H. G. Stokes]

" As regards the circumstances under which the Finance Committee was appointed as a Retrenchment Committee, I do not think I need detain the House at length to recall the circumstances under which it was done. The question was decided at a debate on a cut motion by Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar on the same grant in March 1931, and I explained then the reasons for the proposal to be adopted and the scope of the Committee's reference which was as wide as possible. The result was that the hon. Gentleman withdrew his motion.

" I may remind the House also of the fact that in August last a debate was raised by the same Gentleman proposing that a fresh committee should be appointed. After a full debate, the House rejected the motion. So that I really think it is rather too late in the day now to come forward with this proposal which he has made. Actually I consider that the Retrenchment Committee has addressed itself to its task with the utmost diligence and fullest sense of responsibility and fullest sense of independence. It took up each department in turn; in respect of each, the Secretary prepared a memorandum on the growth of expenditure and the reasons for it. The Committee was by no means confined to the ideas of the Retrenchment Secretary, still less those of the Chairman. The Committee had to study each department in consultation with the head of the department. On the whole it steered very successfully between the difficulties of securing substantial savings without in so doing leading to administrative collapse. It is idle, when you are dealing with complicated machines such as Government and its departments to go about making sweeping changes which have no relation to actualities or facts. An illustration of this is to be found in what one speaker said: He asked ' Where was the necessity for all these Secretaries, Deputy Secretaries and Assistant Secretaries in the Secretariat? I do not know what these people do.' That being so, one might have supposed that he would have refrained from the expression of an opinion as to their necessity. But he went on, somewhat surprisingly, to declare his conclusion that he was sure they were all superfluous officers. I think, criticisms of this kind ought to be strongly deprecated, being neither convincing nor helpful."

* The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President, I have very few minutes in which to reply and I will deal with as many points as possible in the short time at my disposal. The hon. the Finance Member closed his remarks with a reference to the criticisms regarding the Secretariat. The suggestions of the Retrenchment Committee were taken into very careful consideration and as a matter of fact one Under Secretary in the Development Department—which was particularly referred to—has been temporarily ' retrenched.' We also carefully examined in every department, the possibility of reducing the staff with a view to see whether anything more could be done in this direction. But it does not seem to be possible to do more than what has been already done. With regard to reducing the amount of work especially with reference to noting to which my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami

Mudaliyar referred, I am afraid the scheme of sending only Secretar: notes to the Ministers is one which would lead to extra expense. I h seen that scheme in operation not in this Secretariat but elsewhere. T notes written in the office were amended by the Under Secretary a retyped and then sent to the Secretary. It was again amended by Secretary and retyped and printed and then sent to the Member c cerned. That course must cause delay and I do not think it will lead any reduction in staff though of course it would be a very great c venience to the Members of the Government.

"One hon. Member I think Mr. Venkataramayya referred again the lack of Andhras in the Secretariat. I shall be glad to inquire i the effect which has followed from the Chief Secretary's circular wh: Mr. Venkataramayya read out. It is said that it has not had the desi effect. If it has failed I will see whether the failure is due to pauc of Andhra candidates or to any other cause.

"It was suggested that this Government should follow the examp of the Bombay Government and give up its move to the hills. May remind hon. Members that the Bombay Government hitherto had th headquarters, Bombay, Poona and Mahabaleshwar? It has only giv up Máhabaleshwar to which it used to go for two months in every ye but it still has two headquarters Bombay and Poona. The Madr Government do not take up to the hills all the Secretariat staff but on a skeleton staff. The cost of the move is about Rs. 84,000 of whi about Rs. 30,000 is the cost of the move of the Secretariat establis ments and the amount of Rs. 54,000 is the cost of the move of t Governor and the Cabinet. We considered the question whether should refrain from returning to Ootacamund, after the Secretari returns to Madras. But we find the saving is very small. The Membe of Government usually proceed on tour at that season. The extra co involved in going to the Nilgiris at the end of a tour instead of retur ing to Madras at once is very small indeed. But I may say that always keep in view the desirability of keeping the cost of the exod as small as possible.

"Now, coming to the district charges a suggestion was made th the powers of the divisional officers may be delegated and that t revenue divisional officers may be finally done away with altogether. am afraid it will not be possible to do away with the revenue division officers altogether. They have various functions which I have not tin to describe in detail now. But we have asked the Board of Reven whether there can be any delegation of powers from higher to the low authorities. We have already taken measures to reduce the number revenue divisions and taluks where it is possible and also the numb of districts. There have been five amalgamations proposed; the amalg mation of the Nilgiris and Coimbatore, the amalgamation of Madr and Chingleput, the amalgamation of West Godavari and Kistna, th reconstitution of the four Ceded districts into three and the amalgam tion of the Chittoor and North Arcot districts. But decisions have n been finally passed in any of these. But it is probable that we ma

15th March 1932] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

accept the recommendations to amalgamate the Nilgiris and Coimbatore at least as a temporary measure and to amalgamate Madras and Chingleput. In the latter case, the District Magistrate cannot have control over the Madras City and the suggestion has been made that the same officer 5 p.m. may be appointed District Magistrate, Chingleput and Collector of both Madras and Chingleput. The Advocate-General has been asked to give his opinion whether it is legally possible. On other proposals we have received the reports of the Board of Revenue which are still under examination in the Secretariat. We are also awaiting the report regarding the possible transfer of Nuzvid and Tiruvur to the Ellore division of the West Godavari district. In this connexion the remarks made by the hon. Members will be considered, before we pass final orders. The last suggestion was made with a view to possibly reduce the number of divisions. It is not possible to reduce any in the case of Kistna district itself without impairing the efficiency of the administration. So it was considered that we might transfer one or two taluks to the adjoining districts.

"The question of abolishing the Board of Revenue was raised again. I do not think I can within the time at my disposal go through the arguments in favour of its retention. However, to meet a suggestion like that we ought to follow the example of other provinces. There are Boards of Revenue in other provinces; as a matter of fact in almost every province there is a Board of Revenue or a corresponding body, and in some cases there are Commissioners as well.

"The Land Records establishment also has been criticized. It is true it was abolished in 1921 on a motion passed by this House. But the result was that our records got into confusion and we had to revive the post and the staff of the Director of Land Records, though not as an independent department. That was done in 1927, with the concurrence of this House. We find that this department is essential if we are to curtail the work of the Settlement parties. We hope to restrict the work and the cost of the resettlement operations. There are a great many records which have now to be brought up to date by the Settlement parties because they are not kept up to date between settlements and when we have a more efficient Land Records staff, we hope to reduce this work of the resettlement parties. That question is engaging the attention of the Board of Revenue and Government.

"It was suggested that we should provincialize the all-India services as far as possible. I regret that my Friend Mr. Palat made an attack upon the European members of the Indian Civil Service saying that they are out of touch with the people of the country. That charge I must repudiate. The members of the Indian Civil Service come out here with a clear intention to devote themselves wholeheartedly and zealously to the interest of the counry. I am sure every one will agree that the European members of the Service do their very best to further the interests of the people entrusted to their charge for the time being. Good progress has been made in the matter of provincialising the

gazetted officers in the various departments. In the Agricultural, Veterinary and Educational services there have been no recruitments to the all-India services since 1922. The proposals made some years ago for listing appointments and for bringing more Indians into the Indian Civil Service, the Indian Police Service and the Indian Civil Service of Engineers have been carried out and a great deal has been done in that direction already. Hon. Members will find that there are far more Indians nowadays amongst officers holding higher appointments than there were some twenty years ago.

"A suggestion was made that we should not reduce the pay of the village officers. That question is under consideration at the present moment. It was pointed out by the Retrenchment Committee that the expenditure incurred on this establishment alone was something like 120 lakhs which is more than the cost for the rest of the General Administration of the department, including the collectors and everybody else. The recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee will receive careful consideration.

"I am sorry to hear that the village officers are still not treated properly by the officers of Government. It is a matter on which the Government have on various occasions issued orders and I will call their attention to the orders again.

"With regard to Namakkal taluk, my hon. Friend referred to certain channels under the Cauvery river and asked that remissions should be granted. This is provided for already in the remission rules in the Board's Standing Orders, and the ryots affected should apply to the revenue officials of the district. No special orders are necessary. Special measures of relief have been taken in certain cases, as in Tanjore last year and in Bellary this year.

"A criticism was made that there was no check upon the carrying out of the orders of Government regarding communal rotation in making selections for admission to the various services. When the Staff Selection Board was functioning we made arrangements with the Accountant-General that every person on first appointment in Madras should attach to his first pay bill a certificate granted by the Staff Selection Board. Now that the Madras Services Commission selects officials for the whole Presidency we are considering how we can ensure that order to be carried out. It may have to be done by the Madras Services Commission which as a matter of fact is now exercising considerable check in this matter. It is open to any one whose name is on the Commission's list, if he thinks that he ought to have been appointed but has not got an appointment, to apply to the Madras Services Commission. This has actually been done in certain cases. I hope the measures which it is possible for us to take will ensure that the orders are carried out. If any case is brought to my notice where the orders have not been carried out, I will enquire into it."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—"Many questions have been raised in this debate and some of the answers given

15th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyasami Mudaliyar]

particularly by the hon. the Revenue Member have not been satisfactory. So I do not think I shall be justified in withdrawing the motion."

The motion was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

1. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
2. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
3. Mr. Yakub Hasan.
4. Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
5. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
6. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
7. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
8. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
9. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
10. Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
11. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
12. Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan.
13. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
14. Mr. Sarkarai Manradiyar.
15. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
16. Mr. V. T. Arasu.

Noes.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
2. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
3. ,, Sir Archibald Campbell.
4. ,, Mr. H. G. Stokes.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6. ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7. ,, Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
9. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham.
10. ,, H. M. Hood.
11. ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
12. ,, S. H. Slater.
13. ,, E. Conran Smith.
14. ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
15. Khan Sahib Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
16. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
17. Mr. M. Devadasan.
18. ,, N. Siva Raj.
19. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
20. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
21. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi.
22. ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
23. ,, C. Indrayya.
24. ,, P. Bayappa Reddi.
25. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
26. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
27. Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
28. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
29. ,, Daniel Thomas.
30. Swami A. S. Sahajananda.
31. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
32. Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
33. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
34. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
35. Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya Nayudu.
36. Mr. K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu.
37. ,, Mahboob Ali Baig.
38. ,, R. Foulkes.
39. Capt. W. E. Winter.
40. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
41. Mr. C. Basu Dev.
42. Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
43. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
44. ,, G. Lakshmana Reddi.

Ayes 16; *Noes* 44.

The motion was lost.

The main Demand was then put and carried.

The House adjourned to meet again at 11 a.m. the next day.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,

Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Wednesday, the 16th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muhammad Meera Ravuttar, Mr. K. P. V. S.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pattagar of Palayakottai.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Chemudu, The
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Industries

Aid to European firms under the State Aid to Industries Act.

* 1028 *Q.*—Capt. W. E. WINTER: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state with reference to question No. 678 answered at the Council meeting, dated the 26th January 1932—

(*a*) whether any concern belonging to Europeans carrying on indigenous industries has been given aid by the Government since the introduction of the State Aid to Industries Act; and

(*b*) whether any application for aid by European firms were received, under the Act, and whether they were refused?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Seven applications for aid were received from Europeans, but only one of them was from a firm. Two of the applications were withdrawn. The other applications were by a unanimous vote of the Board of Industries recommended for rejection and the Government were therefore precluded from sanctioning the loans under section 8 (5) of the State Aid to Industries Act, 1923.

Capt. W. E. WINTER:—" Sir, may I know the reasons for refusing aid to the firm mentioned here? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There were several reasons. The main reason for refusing aid to this firm was that the security offered by them was found to be inadequate. The other reasons were that the business was not done on sound lines, had no proper management and was a losing concern."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the firm under reference is a registered concern or a private firm? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is not a registered concern. Probably it is not right to call it a firm."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the Government makes any distinction between a registered concern and a private concern in the matter of grant of bonus under State Aid to Industries Act? "

16th March 1932]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not *know of any such distinction being made.*"

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" Do the Government consider it safe to advance moneys to any unregistered firm ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" If the security offered is adequate."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the name of the firm referred to in this question? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The application was made by two representatives of what was called the Ex officers Farm, Lovedale."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state the reasons as to why he calls these two individuals as a firm? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Because they were representatives of what they called the Ex officers Farm, Lovedale."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the number and names of Indian firms that applied for State aid and why they were refused? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The present question by Capt. Winter has arisen out of an answer given to an exactly similar question answered some time ago and if my hon. Friend reads that answer he would find his reply to this question."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the names of the Members of the Board of Industries? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Quite a number of worthy gentlemen. I cannot give their names."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Are there any Europeans? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Oh, yes."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Are they all Members of this House? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There have been Members on the Board who were Members of this House, but that is not a necessary qualification."

Agriculture

Alleged adulteration of Tiruppur cotton.

* 1029 *Q.*—Capt. W. E. WINTER: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any information has been received from Tiruppur regarding the gross adulteration of cotton by the inter-mixing of waste; and

[16th March 1932

(b) whether any steps have been taken, under the Adulteration Act, to put a stop to this practice?

A.—(a) The business manager of the Tiruppur Co-operative Sales Societies complained to the Director of Agriculture on 15th February 1932 that dealers in Chennimalai and Tiruppur have brought cotton waste from Coimbatore *Mills and ginned it along with kapas as a mixture.*

(b) No. If the Act referred to is the Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918, the hon. Member is informed that that Act is inapplicable to adulteration of cotton.

Registration

Transfer of the members of the establishment of the office of the Inspector-General of Registration.

* 1030 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the total number of employees of all ranks in the establishment of the office of the Inspector-General of Registration, Madras;

(b) the number of Muslims, Christians, Non-Brahmans and Brahmans;

(c) the period for which each of these employees has served in the office of the Inspector-General of Registration, Madras;

(d) the convention, if any, followed by the previous Inspector-General of Registration in respect of the transfer of the staff in his office at the close of any period; and

(e) what is the practice now obtaining in the said office?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether the Government will make it available for the Members of this House after the information has been received? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" The Government have called for the information and they will consider the suggestion when the information is received."

Village Officers

Retrenchment in the pay of village officers.

* 1031 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have come to any decision regarding the recommendation made by the Retrenchment Committee for making cuts of 8 annas and 4 annas in the pay of village officers and menials respectively?

16th March 1932]

A.—The recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee is that the following reductions should be made in the pay of village officers and menials:—

Rate of pay.		Amount of cut.
(1) Below Rs. 6 ..	..	No cut.
(2) Rs. 6 and not exceeding Rs. 12	..	4 annas each per mensem.
(3) Above Rs. 12	..	8 annas each per mensem.

The Government have not yet come to a decision on the recommendation.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether any cut in the pay of public servants drawing less than Rs. 40 has been made so far? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" No, Sir."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know then, why these people referred to in this question have been singled out for this cut? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" No orders have been passed by the Government. The Retrenchment Committee has made the recommendation and their recommendation has to be considered."

Diwan Bahadur R N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether any cut has been made in the case of any one who is drawing less than Rs. 40? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I am not aware of any."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the exact amount that the Government expect to save by imposing this cut? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" About 4 lakhs of rupees."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether all the recommendations made by the Retrenchment Committee were accepted by the Government? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" They have all been examined or are under examination. I am not sure whether all their recommendations will be accepted."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the Government cannot be carried on without imposing this cut and, if they do not do so, it would be impossible for them to carry on ? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" The question is under consideration."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know why it was not found possible by Government to take credit for this saving in the Budget Estimates for 1932–33? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" We cannot give credit for a saving until the retrenchment is actually ordered."

[16th March 1932

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know the reasons for this delay on the part of the Government in coming to a decision on this matter? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell :—" The Retrenchment Committee itself made its recommendations only recently. There must be sufficient time to examine the proposals."

Administration of Justice

Cost incurred by the Government in the Vadapalli rioting case.

* 1032 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of remuneration paid to the Public Prosecutor in the Vadapalli rioting case (Sessions Case No. 33 of 1931 on the file of the East Godavari District Court); and

(*b*) the total cost incurred by Government in the conduct of the said sessions case?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The remuneration paid to the Public Prosecutor in connexion with the Vadapalli rioting case, S.C. No. 33 of 1931 on the file of the Sessions Judge, East Godavari, was Rs. 2,270. Information regarding the other expenditure incurred by Government in the conduct of the case is not available. It has been called for.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know whether it is a fact that an appeal has been filed against acquittal in this case, Sir ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know if the Advocate-General was consulted before the appeal was launched? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know if it was on the recommendation of the Advocate-General that the appeal was made? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" The Advocate-General went only into questions of law and not into questions of facts."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I know, when the original charge was made in the lower Court, any legal opinion was consulted? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I do not quite follow my hon. Friend's question. The Police investigated the case and preferred charges. At that stage no lawyers are ordinarily consulted."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" Was the Public Prosecutor consulted ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I believe he was."

16th March 1932]

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Does not the hon. Member know that, unless the Government feel that there has been a gross miscarriage of justice, they do not make appeals against acquittal? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" That is the general principle."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" What is the principle that has to be applied in this particular case? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Each case has to be decided on its own merits."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Is it only to avoid a Budget discussion? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am not prepared to answer questions pitched in that key."

Law and Order—General

Alleged beating of the Congress volunteers by the Police in Mangalore.

* 1033 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that three Congress volunteers who picketed Messrs. R. B. Vasant & Co. in Mangalore town in the last week of January were beaten with lathis by the Police on the head, face and neck and body;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that after they fell down unconscious, about fifteen policemen and sergeants surrounded them and beat them with lathis severely; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that after the beating, the Police dragged them and heaped them one over the other and kicked them with their boots?

A.—(*a*) Seven picketers who picketed the shop of Messrs. Vasant & Co. on 26th January 1932 and other volunteers who refused to disperse in spite of a warning were dispersed by force. No one was beateu on the neck, face or head deliberately but one volunteer, who turned back and fell, accidentally received a blow on the head.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" With reference to the answer given in clause (*b*), may I know what exactly the Government mean by saying ' no ' ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The answer given is ' No '. The Government deny the allegation made in this question."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know whether the *Government say that the Police never beat the volunteers after they fell down unconscious ?* "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" The answer to this question is contained in clause (*a*)."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know whether that is the answer? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" In no place it is admitted that the Police have beaten the volunteers. But it is admitted that they have been dispersed. More than that I do not admit."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know how many persons were injured? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" *We have not the exact number of persons who were injured.*"

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether in the enquiry that the District Magistrate conducted he sent for the persons who were aggrieved parties and took down their statements when he enquired the Police Officers ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" The District Magistrate after making the necessary enquiries replied to the Government and what exactly the scope of the enquiry which he made was entirely within the discretion of the District Magistrate."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know the number of wounds that the Police inflicted on the picketers that fell down ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" We have not the exact number of wounds that have been effected."

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar:—" May I know what objections the Government have to order an open enquiry into the conduct of the Police in dealing with the volunteers instead of the present one-sided enquiry? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" There is no necessity at all to make any such enquiry."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know the nature of the injury that one of the volunteers is said to have received accidentally? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" It is not very serious."

Dr. P. Subbarayan:—" Does not the Government consider that the other side should be given an opportunity to make their statements if an enquiry is made? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" It is open to the parties to make their representations to the District Magistrate, if they want."

16th March 1932]

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" May I know how this accident took place ? Is it because that the head of one of the volunteers fell on the lathi ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " It is not possible to give such information, except to say that by accident it happened."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether Government can give the names of the volunteers who picketed the shops, because the question says that 'three Congress volunteers picketed the shop' and the answer stated that 'there were seven picketers'."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " We have no information. If my hon. Friend wants, I shall obtain it."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" The answer says 'seven picketers picketed the shop and other volunteers' were dispersed. May I know how many 'other' volunteers there were and how it is known that they were volunteers ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I have no information."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether these volunteers formed one batch, or two or three batches? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " They formed one batch."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know whether the Collector called for a statement of the injured persons? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I have already answered that."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that only three persons picketed and they were beaten and they were admitted into the hospital with injuries numbering about 60 or 70 on their bodies? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I am not able to say as to how many injuries they received. I do not know whether these people were beaten by the Police at all."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether any statements were recorded from the proprietors of the Vasant & Co? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " No, Sir."

Alleged insult by a European sergeant of Bezwada to wearers of Gandhi caps.

* 1034 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a European sergeant stationed himself in the centre of a main street in Bezwada about the end of January 1932 and subjected all wearers of khaddar to a severe cane charge and warned them not to appear in khaddar again;

(b) whether it is a fact that the European sergeant removed the Gandhi caps of passers-by on the 1st February 1932 in Bezwada and abused them heartily; and

(c) whether the Government approve of the conduct of the said sergeant; if not, what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) & (b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932–33.

DEMAND XI—MINISTERS, CIVIL SECRETARIATS AND MISCELLANEOUS —TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

' *that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 4,24,100 *for Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred* '."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Sir, I beg to move—

' *that the allotment of Rs.* 2,24,100 *for Ministers, etc.' be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" I want to discuss the policy of the Ministers on this cut motion.

·15 m. " My object in giving notice of the motion was not to refer to the personal qualities of the three hon. gentlemen who happen to be Ministers now but to criticise their acts of commission and omission. We are all aware of the circumstances under which they assumed charge of the Ministry and that it was nothing but the numerical strength of the Party that brought them to office. If that was so, what have they done during the last one year of their term of office? Even if we dive deep into the records to find whether they have done anything substantial, we come out disappointed. They have done absolutely nothing of importance. On the other hand, we find that they have been wholehearted and willing parties to the policy of repression which has been carried on in this Province by the Government.

" Mr. President, you will remember that the Party to which the hon. Ministers belong resolved some time back that dyarchy was unworkable and that they would not take office unless the dyarchic system was done away with. Just at that time elections took place. After the elections, as usual with the Party, there were changes in their angle of vision and in their policy. They decided contrary to their original resolution, whether dyarchy was workable or not, they should accept the posts of Ministers and somehow get on with the work. After all it is very difficult to overcome the temptation of office that was before them and naturally they succumbed to that temptation and they are here today. As I have already said, during the past one year,

16th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

they have not only not done anything substantially good, but they have been parties along with the Reserved half to a policy of repression in the country. Otherwise their general policy has been to mark time. They knew at that time and they know it now also that dyarchy is unworkable and that it is impossible for any party to work it successfully. In spite of that they accepted office and for the last one year they have not been able to do anything. Still, on the eve of new Reforms that are coming they are continuing in their office for reasons best known to themselves. Of course the hon. Ministers might come forward and say that they had many schemes to carry out but could not carry out any of them on account of financial stringency. They may say that their colleague the hon. the Finance Member was not able to sanction the necessary funds to carry out the schemes and that they did not agree with regard to the expenditure on this item or that item. But will that be a valid argument? If they are still there in spite of this, they must be there to do something. With regard to the subjects transferred to their control, if the Ministers are not able to do anything I do not see any reason why they should stick to their places. (Interruption.) My hon. Friend Sir A. P. Patro has recently developed a very jovial temperament and interrupts speakers in season and out of season; sometimes he supports the Ministers, sometimes he undermines them.

" Let us for a moment go into the details and find out what the hon. Ministers have done in the way of legislation. They have brought forward no first-class legislation before the House. The only two Bills brought forward before the House were the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill by the hon. Chief Minister and the Co-operative Societies Bill containing all-embracing amendments brought forward by the hon. the Second Minister. With regard to the Motor Vehicles Taxation Bill, the whole House knows today that it would have been better if it had not been passed at all. Of course the hon. Minister may say that he was not responsible for initiating the measure, that it was already in the archives of the Secretariat having been taken up by the present Leader of the Opposition while he had been Minister and that he had no alternative but to pilot it through the Council. But how can he escape any responsibility for the measure he being the Chief Minister who brought it forward? When the Bill was before the House, we on the Opposition Benches clearly pointed out that it was a retrograde measure and that its results would be detrimental not only to the finances of the Province but also to the motor industry in the Province. The hon. Minister knows today that whatever was anticipated by the Members on the Opposition side has come true. During the last three quarters of the year they have not been able to collect even 60 per cent of the anticipated revenue from this source. The hon. Minister cannot say that the fall in receipts is entirely due to the economic depression and the financial stringency; for there has not been such a fall in the other sources of revenue. The reason why there has been a much greater fall in this source of revenue as compared with the usual sources of Government revenue is because the statistics were

originally worked out on an entirely wrong basis. With regard to the number of motor vehicles, the number of the Police register was taken to be the actual number on the road. Any amount of our criticism from this side of the House to the effect that there were no more than half the number of vehicles on the road out of those entered in the Police registers, was not heeded. The hon. Minister had more faith in his Secretary and the Secretary would not believe our statements to be correct. The Act was passed and we have to rue the consequences of it.

" With regard to other matters he promised to amend the rules under the Local Boards Act and amend the Hindu Religious Endowments Act. He said he would hold elections to the various temple committees. But he has not done anything in these directions. Today he is not talking about them or perhaps even thinking about them. He probably thinks the best policy is to mark time and keep quiet lest he should be injuring his parties' interests by doing anything.

" With regard to the municipal elections there are various minority communities and special interests who have a grievance as to the number of seats allotted to them, the rules regarding the elections and so on. With regard to local board elections also, the hon. Minister has not been able to hold them within the specified time. We do not know why he has put them off. Of course, as the Leader of a great Party, the hon. the Chief Minister is anxious that nothing should happen in the elections which would injure the interests of his party candidates. He has put off the elections and framed the rules in such a way that they could be of help to his party men, that his party men may come up as district board presidents and gradully in one or two years as Legislative Council Members, so that he and his friends may always be on the Treasury Bench. Even till today the elections have not been held.

" Coming to the Medical Department, we find that the hon. Minister has been responsible for a policy of retrenchment there in the lower grades which has had the effect of nullifying the Communal Government Order which was passed to give opportunities of employment to candidates of minority communities. The retrenchment policy in the Medical Department has affected the assistant and sub-assistant surgeons in the lower ranks and thus has brought back that communal inequality to redress which the Communal Government Order was passed.

" With regard to rural reconstruction, which is one of the hon. Minister's pet schemes and about which he was very eloquent in criticising others while he was out of office, he has done absolutely nothing at all. He often used to ask the Ministers in office whether they had prepared any definite scheme of rural reconstruction or not.

30 " I should like to ask whether the hon. the Chief Minister has
1. prepared any scheme for rural reconstruction ; if he has done so, why does he not put that scheme into force? Why has he not fought with the hon. the Finance Member for an adequate sum to see that his scheme is given effect to in the villages?

" So far as the Education Department is concerned, it is a very sad tale. We find that a large amount of money is being wasted and the

16th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

hon. the Minister for Education has not yet placed before the House any schemes to avoid the vast amount of waste that is going on in the Elementary Education Department.

"With regard to retrenchment proposals, it is a pity that the hon. the Minister for Education was not strong enough or could not be strong enough not to agree to retrenchment with regard to stipends to deserving people who, without these stipends, will not be able to continue their education. The hon. Minister was responsible also for the stopping of aid that is given to night schools ; the amount of grants given to night schools has been reduced by 75 per cent. How can the night schools go on with 25 per cent of the grants they were hitherto getting ? In this way he has been responsible for putting off adult education for all time.

"With regard to the question of repression, I should like to ask hon. Ministers 'what have they done? Have they intervened in the matter'? I suppose that the joint responsibility of the Members of the Cabinet is there still. I ask whether as Members of the Cabinet, they were not a party to all the repression that is going on now. Is it the policy of the Government to carry on repression not only against Congressmen but also against innocent persons ? What have the Ministers done ? Have they raised their little finger and, if so, with what effect ? If they have failed, what steps have they taken to show that they do not agree with the action taken by the Government ? I think they are as much responsible for the repression that is going on in the Province as any Member of the Reserved Half. I find, Sir, that there are five Members of the Justice Party on the Cabinet, out of seven ; having such a large majority on the Cabinet, will they say that they are not responsible for the ruthless repression that is being carried on throughout the length and breadth of the Province ? They are responsible more than any Member of the Reserved Half.

"Hon. Ministers have not brought up before the Council some Bills which they promised. There is the Madras City Municipal Amendment Act which has been very long in the archives of the Secretariat and which was prepared long ago by the Chief Minister's predecessor. I do not know the reason why he has not chosen to bring up that Bill before this House. Then, Sir, the recent Government Order regarding National Flag stands against him more than anything else. What does he mean by issuing this Government Order? I want to know if the hon. the Chief Minister who was a member of the All-India Congress Committee before he became the Chief Minister, does not recognize the National Flag now and whether he has given up that Flag once for all. Will he recognize it the moment he ceases to be the Chief Minister ? He promised to bring an amending Bill to the Local Boards Act in connexion with the appointment of executive officers. What has he done with that measure? When is he likely to bring up that measure before this House and what is the reason for the delay? The local bodies are to-day suffering a great deal on account of want of finance. For the position of the local boards and for the bad condition of the roads to-day, nobody but the hon. the Chief Minister is entirely responsible. In these days of depression, I want to

know what the hon. the Ministers have done to relieve unemployment, and whether it is not their duty to do something—as has been done in other countries—to improve Industries, Agriculture, Co-operation, etc., so that unemployment in the Province may be relieved. We find, Sir, that more Civilian Officers have been appointed to various posts which had hitherto been given to non-Civilian Officers; the Director of Industries is a Civilian ; the Director of Agriculture is a Civilian ; and the Government should have appointed persons who are technically qualified and who may be competent enough to hold those posts. This Ministry has got such faith in the Civilian Officers that they have appointed them to these posts."

* Mr. F. G. Luker :—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish to raise, under this motion, the question of the policy of the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government in regard to transport generally and in regard to public transport (that is motor vehicle transport) in particular. The subject is a wide and important one and one that presents many difficulties. These difficulties we have fully realized in the Committee which is now sitting to examine the incidence of Motor Taxation. First of all, I wish to express my appreciation of the attitude of the hon. the Chief Minister and Mr. Conran Smith and of the other Members who have, for the common good, often agreed to recommendations which might at the present moment appear to be against the interests of the district boards and other bodies which they represent. But I maintain that Government have not prior to the passing of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, and during the first three quarters of its operation dealt with the subject efficiently or adequately. Certainly Motor Taxation has not been dealt with sympathetically and no definite policy has been formulated during the past twelve months.

" What is the present situation? Firstly, no one can deny that there is excessive taxation of a threefold nature, Central, Provincial and Local. I say that motor transport is taxed excessively ; I challenge anybody to contradict that statement in any way. No one is satisfied or happy about it. Even the Central Government is faced with the law of diminishing returns from import duties and from petrol excise, and, the high water mark of taxation has been exceeded. The district boards are not happy because they are not getting what they anticipated ; they are getting less than 60 per cent of what they were promised. Bus-owners are certainly not happy because of crushing dual taxation, added of course to the burden of import duties and high petrol prices. The riding public are not happy from a comfort and convenience point of view. Bus-owners cannot operate their vehicles at a profit, and, therefore cannot maintain them in that condition which is necessary for all public utility vehicles. Moreover the public suffer discomfort in riding over bad and dangerous roads. Then again, the Motor Importing, Distributing and Servicing trade is definitely not happy. There is unemployment and depression here, as in most other walks of life. It will naturally be said that this is attributable to economic depression. Partially this is right, but economic depression only makes the present crushing taxation more difficult to bear than would be the case in better times. Even if

16th March 1932]   [Mr. F. G. Luker]

there was no economic depression, no one could deny that the present treble taxation is far too heavy when compared with other countries and other Provinces in India.

" The Motor Transport industry is of sufficient public importance to warrant a definite, sympathetic and progressively constructive policy and not one of " laissez-faire, " amounting in many ways to repression. The Government of India is concerned with the drop in Railway revenue, and, they no doubt attribute part of this to competition from motor transport. Partially they may be right, but in many ways wrong. My reason for introducing the subject is to point out the necessity for the Government of Madras to press the Government of India for a definite policy of co-ordination of all forms of transport. This policy is well summed up in a leader of the ' Hindu ' of March 2nd which says:

> ' Each form of transport has a sphere of operation in which it will be found to excel others; and the duty of the State should be to encourage the use of each in that sphere where it is calculated to function most efficiently. It is for achieving this co-ordination that the country has asked for the establishment of a Ministry of Transport and we trust there will be no delay in taking up this question for earnest consideration and early settlement.'

" Fundamentally such a question is for the Government of India, but has the Madras Government yet formulated plans or made representations to hasten such co-ordination in our Presidency ? Every Presidency in this country should receive a larger proportion of the present high excise on petrol for Provincial road construction. One of the ways to get this is by adopting a bold and progressive policy in our Presidency and by the pressing forward of plans for co-ordination of all forms of transport. Otherwise it looks as if we may not be able to get a higher contribution from the Central Government from the petrol tax. There has been a great decrease in petrol sales; it has been more marked since the introduction of the Madras Vehicles Taxation Act.

" Although a year has nearly passed since the introduction of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, our House is far from being put in order. There is much to be done and much that could and should have been done in the past 12 months. Before the introduction of the Act, Government was adequately warned in this House of the many pitfalls likely to arise, as was pointed out by the hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan. I would remind the House that in April last and even long before this, the economic depression had started and the outlook was definitely bad. Due altogether to a too optimistic outlook and due obviously to incorrect statistics it was considered that the provincial tax on motor vehicles would yield an amount sufficient to reimburse district boards for the loss of toll revenue. Such has not been the case. But, and here is my strongest criticism, Government was induced for some unknown reason to drop a possible revenue of about Rs. 25 lakhs by allowing bullock carts to use the roads and to cut them up without paying for their use or for the damage they do. A tax of Rs. 5 per year on bullock carts would mean just over $2\frac{1}{2}$ pies per day, and a tax of Rs. 10 would mean 5 pies per day. But in the aggregate it would have helped the Government, the district boards, the motor

[Mr. F. G. Luker] [16th March 1932

.45 m. Transport industry and the riding public. I doubt, Sir, whether any district board really wanted to drop the contribution from bullock carts, for the maintenance of roads in good condition. I have failed to read or hear anywhere of any great demand a year or more ago for the abolition of all contribution to road upkeep from bullock carts.

" I would draw the attention of the House to the report of the meeting of the Kumbakonam Municipal Council of March 11th, which probably typifies the opinion of most district boards and municipal councils in this Presidency. The Kumbakonam Council agreed that the motor vehicles tax was too heavy, particularly on buses, and that this was one reason, as has been pointed out, why the Government have been unable to realize as much as they had anticipated. They also state that in their opinion there is no justification for exempting bullock carts or other country carts which, as is well known, spoil the roads more than motor vehicles do. The Council asked for the repeal of the Act, but in particular, for the restoration of tolls for vehicles other than motor vehicles.

" It quickly became evident from early this year that all was not well, that Government's contribution to the district boards was not going to be enough, and that district board licence fees plus the provincial tax were going to drive many vehicles off the roads and result in even less revenue. Have Government taken any steps to remedy this for next year ? They are not prepared to even consider giving any discretion to local bodies to levy tolls amounting to a few pies per day per bullock cart. Admittedly, panchayats are permitted to levy licence fees on bullock carts, but is there any guarantee that the results will be used to lessen the district boards' cost of road maintenance ? A fair and bold policy is needed whereby all road users are made to pay their fair contribution for the use of the roads, and thus shoulder their rightful share for the maintenance of the roads.

" Then again, as long ago as July last, it was evident that all was far from being well with the new taxation and that the situation did not look like improving. What was done? Next to nothing as far as I can see, but the carrying on of a policy of ' Wait and see '. Statistics of the number of buses and trucks should have been obtained at once, especially statistics of the number of vehicles that were going off the roads. I think it would have been even better to have called for a conference of District Board Presidents and engineers in Madras—it would have been worth while to do—to thoroughly go into the whole question at once and not, as has been done, wait until the end of the year. Well, that was not done. An examination should also have been made of all licence fee, rates and as to the reasons why they were so high in certain districts. Enquiries and investigations should have been made as to why one district charged a moderate sum as licence fee and had good roads, while another district charged double the amount and yet had bad roads. All these matters could and should have been tackled. Even when the Act came into force, the machinery for applying it was woefully deficient. No one, I believe, will deny that. Whether, Sir, it is contemplated by the Government to increase the provincial tax on buses from Rs. 7-8-0

16th March 1932] [Mr. F. G. Luker]

to Rs. 10 per seat is a matter at the present moment for conjecture. Some may consider that this would be a way out of certain difficulties. But even my friends the district board presidents here, I think will agree with me that the law of diminishing returns has long since come into operation, and that it only needs in many districts a few pieces of straw to break the proverbial camel's back. If it is the policy of the Government to deliberately drive buses and commercial vehicles off the road in order to preserve these roads, then the best way they can do it is by putting up the provincial tax. What its effect will be on the motor transport industry and upon the riding public is a different matter altogether. They would not save much by such a measure because the bullock carts will use in increasing numbers those roads which have cost so much to construct, but we shall obtain no revenue from them whatever. I maintain, Sir, that it will be the height of folly at the present time to increase this provincial tax; for, the net result, I am confident, would be less revenue than if the tax is left where it is.

"A progressive policy on the part of the Minister has not been entirely evident. I have stated before that there are many difficulties and that these are appreciated. All these difficulties are also shared by the district boards. No one will deny that one of the problems that every one has to face to-day is the balancing of budgets, and there are two ways of doing this, firstly by increased taxation and secondly by retrenchment. No one will say that it will be fair to increase the taxation, whether provincial or by the district boards on an industry that is already trebly taxed. So, we are left with the other alternative ; that is the plan of retrenchment. No one can possibly agree that in the past and even at present all road allotments to the district boards have been entirely and wholly spent on the maintenance and construction of roads. Here it is, I believe, that the Local Self-Government department should sympathetically, nevertheless definitely, lay down what should be the expenditure on roads. They should take every measure to urge on the Public Works Department and everybody concerned the necessity, in times of national difficulty like this, for the least possible money being spent by the district boards but nevertheless for seeing that the roads are maintained in the best possible condition, so that we may be assured that for every rupee allotted for road maintenance, we get at least As. 15 worth of material and labour used and spent on our roads.

"There is, I believe, Sir, a Road Board existing in this Presidency. I am credibly informed that I am a member of this Road Board (laughter) although for the past fifteen months, to the best of my knowledge, I have not been asked to attend a meeting of it. Here is further evidence of a lack of policy on the part of the Government or the Ministry. A Road Board, properly constituted, might have been, might be still and might be in the future, of great benefit to the Government in regard to their road transport policy. If the Road Board is no good, let us scrap it and try to bring in something which will be of use to all concerned.

"I trust, Sir, that no delay will take place in putting into immediate operation those recommendations that the Committee appointed has

unanimously made for the partial redress of some of the burdens of taxation on motor transport, and I trust that Government will look on these recommendations in a broadminded and sympathetic manner, not from the viewpoint of a possible reduction in revenue, but from the viewpoint of some small gesture to encourage the progress of a great public utility service. I trust, Sir, the hon. the Chief Minister will look on these recommendations not as a total but only as a partial redress of the present grievances. There is much to be done still. I hope the recommendations will be put into operation at the earliest possible moment.

" I am convinced, Sir, that if the Government will adopt a definite policy of encouragement, added to a real desire to lighten the burden of taxation, wherever possible, that the eventual result will not be lower revenue, but a steadily increasing one. The whole business of the transportation of people and of goods is not a luxury business, which, can be taxed out of existence ; it is one of definite value to the country as a whole. It is a public utility service, and as such, should not, I believe, be subjected to a burden of taxation, which, is far greater than that borne by other businesses of far less importance to the welfare and progress of the country."

* Mr. V. P. NARAYANAN NAMBIYAR :—" Mr. President, all these days that I have been a Member of this hon. House, I have never said anything against the doings or the achievements of our Ministers, because I know that the three hon. Gentlemen occupying the Transferred Half of the Treasury Bench are, on account of the limitations of diarchy, as helpless as any other ordinary Member of this House, either to redress the grievances of the people or to bring about a better state of affairs. There was also the additional reason, that at this hour of supreme importance in the history of our country, the elected groups of this House should, instead of indulging in mutual recriminations, work conjointly against the repressive policy of the Government.

" But the speech of the hon. the Chief Minister on Monday afternoon has given the rudest shock to all on our side of the House who had confidently hoped that in dealing with matters affecting the larger interests of the country, no bitter feelings would be engendered and that every attempt would be made to secure the co-operation of all sections of this House. The statement of the Leader of the Opposition, which seems to have roused all the ire that was displayed by the Chief Minister, merely said that as the cut motion moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataramayya, was vague and capable of many interpretations—a position which was justified by the debate that subsequently took place—it would be better and more satisfactory to discuss the whole question on a day specially allotted for it. There is nothing offensive here. The statement neither blames the Party in Power nor praises the Party in Opposition to have provoked the fulminating outbursts that rent the air of this Chamber on Monday. The spirit that pervaded the speech of the hon. the Chief Minister was, ' if the pistol misses fire, knock down with the butt end of it.'

16th March 1932] [Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar]

"He characterized the Party in Opposition as the 'pseudo Congress Party.' May I tell the hon. Gentleman that the expression 'Pseudo Congress' can, with more appropriateness and greater justification, be applied to the policy of the hon. the Chief Minister, who talks with evident emotion on the present system of administration and the Ordinance regime, and yet brings to life again the Government Order prohibiting the hoisting of the National Flag over buildings belonging to local bodies? Many local bodies have recorded the order under protest; and the Home Member with the Government of India, replying to a question in the Assembly, said, 'I am not aware that flying of any flag is in itself either illegal or seditious.' The hon. the Chief Minister knows perfectly well that the National Flag is not the symbol of a particular political party but is generally regarded as an emblem of India's unity. Sir, yet Caesar was ambitious and Brutus is an honourable man. When my hon. Friend, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, referred to the Government Order about the National Flag a smile slowly crept over the lips of the Chief Minister, perhaps indicating that the Government Order originated with Dr. Subbarayan, who now happens to be the Leader of the Opposition. My reply here is, that if Caesar was ambitious, he has paid for it, and we all know that before the drama ends, Brutus also pays for everything.

"Sir, the hon. the Chief Minister said the other day that two representative speeches by two important Members of our Party could have made clear the attitude of the United Nationalist Party on the question of Reforms. May I ask the hon. the Chief Minister when came this dawn of wisdom? Had this suggestion been made to his own party men at some of their important meetings, then many an adjournment motion would not have been talked out and the country would have witnessed a united stand in matters of vital importance. The attitude adopted by the Ministers when adjournment motions relating to the use of force by the Police came up for discussion leads but to the conclusion that the Ministers have only helped in the present policy of the Government. 12 noon

"The hon. the Chief Minister, quoting from the report of the Federal Structure Committee, said that he and his party stood for an All-India Federation. He also said that they were for the simultaneous introduction of Responsibility at the Centre and in the Provinces. All glory to the Chief Minister. But more than the Reforms what ought to engage the attention of the leaders is the creation of an atmosphere necessary for the successful working out of the Reforms. Sir, I listened in vain to the speech of the great Leader of the Party in Power for some suggestion on that aspect of the question. Even the newest member of the party could have got up and easily made a speech abusing some and quoting some. But when a leader speaks, he must, unperturbed by minor hecklings, speak like a leader dealing with a subject in its entirety.

"Sir, I was amused when the hon. the Chief Minister said that 'his policy, as that of his party, had always been to help the minorities

[Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar] [16th March 1932

to attain their rightful share,' because as soon as the Chief Minister uttered this sentence, my eyes fell on a cut motion that has been tabled by a distinguished member of his party, Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam, in order to point out 'the inadequacy of the number of seats allotted for the minority communities in municipalities and local boards.' Many an instance like this can be multiplied; but let me tell the hon. the Chief Minister that, so far as the country is concerned, his calling the United Nationalist Party as the pseudo-Congress Party and our returning the compliment with equal, if not greater vigour, is not going to be of any use. Such division will only help the irresponsible autocracy. I would conclude, therefore, by appealing to the hon. the Chief Minister, in the name of things that are to be achieved for the common good, to work in unison with all parties and inaugurate an era of peace and contentment."

* Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not think I will be exposed to the charge of judging the actions of this Ministry hastily. They have had more than one and a half years of office or half of the natural term of the Ministry is already over. It is but therefore right that this House must estimate the record of the work which the Ministry has put forward during its tenure of office. I am afraid, Sir, that judged from that point of view, the record that is left by this Ministry is one of blankness. There has been absolutely nothing which will merit any observation from this part of the House, except one or two small measures, the owning of which would be discreditable even to a Ministry of this sort. But, the justification for my speaking on this occasion is the very provocative speech which the hon. the Chief Minister thought fit to make the other day. Sir, he was no doubt wise in making that speech which only revealed circumspection but did not show courage. He knew that the Opposition resolved not to participate in the debate and therefore it was that he flared so high in the security of not being challenged on the same occasion. Probably in the exuberance of his anger, he might have forgotten that there are other occasions at which we could possibly get at the Ministers and reply point by point in regard to the speech that he made. Sir, he was so sorry that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition did not think of co-operating with him in the matter of discussion of further Reforms. Does the hon. the Chief Minister really believe that the Leader of the Opposition was unwilling to co-operate with him in the matter of asking for further Reforms which would satisfy the legitimate demands and aspirations of the people of this country? Was he not aware that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition was requesting the hon. the Home Member to allot a day for discussion not only with regard to the question of Reforms, but also with regard to the discussion of a more live question, namely, the franchise question? And, was it not a fact that the hon. the Chief Minister did not make up his mind or was not able to persuade his party men to make up their minds to agree to the discussion of the question on a special day? Having regard to the wobbling policy that he has adopted in persuading the hon. the Home Member not to give a day, is it fair on his part to have challenged the

16th March 1932] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

hon. the Leader of the Opposition that he did not co-operate with the hon. the Chief Minister. That is indeed a very very unfair charge to make. I challenge the Chief Minister to ask the Government to give a day to discuss not only the question of Constitutional Reforms but also the Franchise question. The constitution of the local Franchise Committee has of course a history of its own. The Government took care to stuff it with persons of their own views, and they would not consult the Opposition in the selection of persons to sit on that Committee. Perhaps now, in the last stage, one member was allowed to sit on that Committee, but I do not know whether that gentleman had the permission of the Opposition Party as such to sit on that Committee. Having taken care to see that no member who would represent the Opposition point of view is on the Committee, it certainly is no credit for the hon. the Chief Minister now to say that the hon. the Leader of the Opposition did not co-operate with him in the matter of the discussion of these points. On every one of the recommendations which the Madras Government have come to—necessarily in consultation with the Ministers—it was up to the Ministers to put these matters for discussion in this House and take the verdict of this House. We are aware that this House itself is full of members who belong to his party and having regard to that, why should he not have picked up courage and put the question publicly for discussion? It is because opinions expressed by Ministers in private are diametrically opposed to the opinions and views of the country at large. I challenge the hon. Minister to address public meetings in various parts of this country and put forward the recommendation which he has made to the Government on this Franchise question. Then he would see who is in favour of that. My hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, has, unusually, characterized the Members of the Opposition as pseudo-Congressmen. Sir, to return that compliment to him, it would not take a very long time. I only wish to recall to his mind whether he had been a pseudo-Congressman or a pseudo-loyalist when he, just on the eve of the elections went about the remote villages in his own district and advocated independence, and accepted a Ministership under the diarchic system of Government. Was it a question of pseudo-Congress policy when as the President of the District Board of Chittoor he allowed the National Flag to be hoisted on the premises of the district board itself, or is it a case of pseudo-Congress policy that he had become a member of the All-India Congress Committee? Whether it was to deceive the Congress or to deceive the Government is a question which the hon. the Chief Minister has got to answer. Sir, whatever we are, we are not pseudo, we are real. (Rao Sahib B. Venkataramayya Nayudu: 'You are nothing.') It may be nothing and 'nothing' itself is a reality.

"Sir, with regard to the resolution which my hon. Friend, Mr. Venkataramayya, has moved the other day upon which such a provocative discussion took place, what is it after all that is meant by it? Speeding up the Reforms. Does it require a reconsideration of the subject in order to convince anybody in this world that India requires further

[Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti] [16th March 1932

Reforms and that speedily too. On that question, what is the kind of answer that the hon. the Chief Minister expects from this House? Could he not have chosen another cut motion in which there would be a clearer and a more definite policy laid down than a mere ambiguous and indefinite generalization of the speeding up of Reforms? Mr. Venkataramayya's motion was practically taken as an excuse for avoiding the House coming to a decision on a subsequent motion which relates to the term of office of the hon. the Home Member. That is the idea with which that party worked. If they had merely skipped over Mr. Venkataramayya's motion, there was every likelihood of this House facing the question on the other cut motion, namely, that relating to the term of office of the hon. the Home Member. The hon. the Home Member and the Ministry are so attached to each other that they would not permit any resolution being moved affecting the position and policy of either of them—never mind, the hon. the Law Member in the struggle, he might easily be ignored by the Ministry. The Home Member is attached to the Justice Party and the Justice Party is attached to the Home Member, and the Justice Party may feel bound to support the hon. the Home Member in all his repressive policy.

"I ask the hon. the Chief Minister what he has really done with regard to repression that is so much prevalent in this country. Has he either publicly or privately ever condemned the policy of repression or does he justify it? Has he not on many occasions persuaded his party-men from speaking out their mind in this Council or airing their grievances from which they suffer in their own districts? Has he not been responsible for seeing that all adjournment motions are talked out? Is this the courageous policy which the hon. the Chief Minister is pursuing?

"Now, Sir, like a school-boy who whistles just before the grave-yard, my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, has invited us to polls and said he was ready to face the issue at the elections. The hon. the Minister knows very well the conditions now prevailing in this country. Having put all the Nationalists, having put all the Congressmen into the jails and having abetted and aided the Government in doing so, it would not require the courage of a brave man, much less a Chief Minister, to say, 'let us see at the elections.' Who are there to fight here at the elections? Every one who could fight you is in jail. Well, release them and see what your fate is. Then I can understand your courage. (A voice: 'Who are they?') They are your and our masters.

"Now, Sir, with regard to the question of Provincial Autonomy and Responsibility both at the Centre and in the Provinces, my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, is still indefinite and vague. I have ransacked the speech, his long speech made the other day, and I did not find his definite expression of opinion with regard to the need for giving Responsibility both in the Provinces and at the Centre simultaneously. When interrupted by some Member of the House he referred him to the speech made by the spokesman of his party. Sir, it is on this matter that I am under a considerable handicap, and I do not

16th March 1932] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

know who really are the spokesmen of the Justice Party. My hon. Friend, Sir Patro, had said at the Round Table Conference that he was speaking on behalf of the small industrialists, the agriculturists, the ryots and labour. I suppose if he was referring to Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, I should think that Sir Patro and Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar do not very well agree. In fact, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar in one of his speeches before the plenary session of the Round Table Conference referred to the number of cablegrams which have been sent from this part of the country to him asking him to stick up to the policy of Responsibility simultaneously both in the Provinces and at the Centre. What the occasion was to send those cables is still a mystery, unless it be the explanation given in the newspapers that the hon. Member Sir Patro wanted Provincial Autonomy whatever might be the fate of the Central Government. But subsequently, as usual with him, my hon. Friend has changed his opinion—I am glad to see it and I only hope that the change his view has undergone will stand there—and that it will not be subjected to further changes. I should be glad to be told that the Justice Party really endorses the policy of simultaneous Responsibility both in the Provinces and at the Centre.

"I am however glad that my hon. Friend, Mr. Ratnasabhapati 12
Mudaliyar, was more explicit and has revealed a possible difference of P.M.
opinion in the party itself. Though the hon. the Chief Minister criticized the hon. the Leader of the Opposition for not coming to any agreement amongst ourselves, he did not see that such a disagreement exists in his own party; and that apart from the ginger party who stand aloof there are others who try to thrust their opinion on others at any time. With regard to the ginger party (Mr. Badeti Venkataramayya: 'There is no ginger party'), I do not know what is the attitude of the hon. the Chief Minister. Is he in favour of the statement made by the Raja of Bobbili at the Round Table Conference? Does he want that unless Federation fructifies, no Reforms should come in? If he is not in favour of that attitude, how does he reconcile his being a member of the party and agreeing to the policy of the Ministry, namely, that Central Responsibility and Provincial Autonomy should go together? There are several points on which the party has not made up its mind; or if it had made up its mind, it had not the courage to express them openly and would like to put it off till the day comes for them to account. And still it seems to be surprising that he must take the Opposition to task for their unwillingness to co-operate in discussing a resolution which is absolutely of no importance. The hon. the Chief Minister is aware that the Leader of the Opposition had asked for a day when not only the question of constitutional issue but also the Franchise question could be discussed and then alone would the hon. the Chief Minister absolve himself from the charge of ungraciously attacking this party and not courageously facing the question at issue."

* **Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam**:—"Mr. President, Sir, let me begin by congratulating Rao Sahib Badeti Venkataramayya on the effect

which his speech of yesterday has already had; his shaft appears to have found its mark; his taunt seems to have roused the Opposition from their slumber, helped them to shake off the languor which has overtaken them of late and to really play the role of a constitutional opposition. But their new-born spirit and enthusiasm have however led their spokesman to ignore facts, and, if I may say so with all respect, to take leave of their powers of reasoning and their sense of logic.

"The first charge made by the hon. Member, Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, against the Ministry in general and the hon. the Chief Minister and the Leader of the Party in particular was 'the Motor Vehicles Act.' He knows and all of us do know, that the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act was a legacy which he inherited; I admit however that that fact does not in any degree diminish his responsibility for placing the Act on the Statute book. While recognizing the responsibility of the Minister for the passing of the Act, I would also ask hon. Members not to forget their own responsibility in the matter. We all know that it was a measure welcomed by all sections of the House. (Voices: No.) There might have been criticisms as to details here and there but as to the underlying principle of the Bill, there was not a single dissentient voice; and it was blessed by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition himself whose child it mainly was and we all from every side of the House have given it our benediction. And now if we find that the revenue realized does not come up to our anticipations, would it be fair to lay the blame at the door of the hon. the Chief Minister and are the merits and demerits of this Bill to be calculated merely in terms of rupees, annas and pies? Are we to forget the one great benefit which this Act has conferred on the rural population of the province, the relief it has given to the cart-owner—the cart-owner against whom the hon. Mr. Luker seems to have a special grievance in that they have been relieved of all toll-fees? Sir, let us remember that the cart-owner is no other than the poor agriculturists and tiller of the soil and in these days of financial stress and in these days when agricultural produce fetches the lowest price that it has been fetching for the last 15 years, this indirect relief is a great boon for which the poor of the land will be eternally indebted to the hon. the Chief Minister. If the revenues derived under the Act have not come up to our expectations, we should not forget the fact that there has been financial depression all round, and that there has been a reduction in all the sources of Government income except perhaps the land revenue. Wherever we might turn, there is a fall and as the hon. Gentleman, Mr. Luker, said there has been a fall in the railway income as well. But when he says that this was due mainly to the competition by the motor buses, I am unable to agree with him and have to state that it is much more due to the fact that there is a great fall off in the number of the travelling public. (An hon. Member: 'The railway statistics show otherwise.') I am confident they show, Sir, that during the last few years, the number of travelling public has gone down very much. It

16th March 1932]   [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

also shows that the goods transported have also gone down and that there has been a general contraction of trade and business and of the moving about of people. Inevitably the motor trade also has been similarly affected. For this contraction in motor trade in particular, may I point out a special contributive cause? During the past several years, thanks to the alluring inducements and offers by the agents of motor dealers, several poor men were persuaded to sell up their all and invest the outturn in the purchase of motors on the instalment system. The first few instalments are paid, the rest are allowed to fall into arrears, the motor dealer naturally steps in, attaches and takes away the car, with the result that the original purchaser finds himself a pauper deprived of all that he possessed in the world. This sort of thing cannot be expected to go on for ever. People have now begun to realize the full implications of the instalment system and there has been an inevitable fall in the sale of motor buses with its consequential effect in the income under the Act. So much about the charge against the Ministry on the score of this Motor Vehicles Taxation Act.

" The next accusation, the most amusing one and one which made us on this side of the House sit up in amazement, was the charge that the hon. the Chief Minister was putting off the election to the local boards, and constituting fresh electoral circles with a view to accommodate his partymen. I cannot conceive of a charge more unfounded. For the last 15 months that this party has been in power, the feeling among us has been that time after time the Minister's supporters and partymen have been made to sacrifice their own interests in order to placate the Opposition. May I respectfully suggest, Sir, that the hon. the Chief Minister may take a lesson at least now and see for himself that this policy of placating the Opposition will not do? One can never placate the Opposition. The result of such an action may be that supporters of the party in course of time fall off. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: ' Then placate them. ') Well, Sir, if I were in his position that is what I should do. Whoever may be deserving of an accusation of this sort, the hon. the present Chief Minister does certainly not deserve it.

" Regarding the speech of the hon. the Chief Minister of which so much had been made, I was unfortunately not present to listen to it; but let me offer my respectful congratulations to the hon. the Chief Minister on having put some life into the Opposition (laughter) and on his having made them realize that they are here to discharge a certain duty and not to merely sulk and, instead of walking out which seems to have gone out of fashion, say that they would not take part in the proceedings. The main charge under this head has been, Sir, that the Chief Minister characterized them as pseudo-Congressmen. Need he alone have said it? Does not any Member of this hon. House know that the hon. Gentlemen on those Benches in time and out of time had said that they spoke in the name of the Congress? Do we not know that they were saying that they were the advocates of the Congress and still sitting as hon. Members of this House when the Congress has decided not to enter the Councils? (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: ' Advocates of

Congress are not pseudo-Congress. ') Yes, advocates of Congress. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: ' Is that your logic? ') (A voice: ' Remember the day of reckoning. ') Yes, Sir, we are waiting for the day of reckoning. We are here as people who held ourselves out as men who are prepared to work the constitution however defective it might be. The Ministry has been charged with having taken up office after time and again pronouncing that diarchy was an unworkable system. That exactly shows the valour and courage with which we have offered ourselves for the service of the country. We know that it is very difficult, but being accustomed to constitutional ways, on the strength of our numbers, which again seems to be a charge against the Ministry by Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan, and having regard to the strength of feeling in the country, our leaders decided to shoulder the responsibilities of office consistent with the principles of the party to work the constitution under whatever circumstance. Therefore, I would submit that the Ministry is there by reason of its own rights, having the support of the majority of the representatives of the country in the Council who in their turn have the support of the country at large behind them.

-30 m. " Just one word, Sir, about my own cut motions, for referring to which I am indebted to my hon. Friend, Mr. Nambiyar. My motions are to point out the unsatisfactory nature of the representation which the minorities have so far secured in municipalities as the result of a joint electorate with reservation of seats, and to point out also the inadequacy of the number of seats allotted for the minority communities in municipalities and local boards. Sir, my first motion is to discuss the choice between the separate and joint electorate; and in that matter I know there is difference of opinion between the people sitting even on my side and the hon. the Chief Minister."

Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar:—" On a point of order, Sir, I referred to the second motion only."

Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" Well, I propose to deal with both. I need only point out, Mr. President, the fact that, at least in some cases which have come to my knowledge, as a result of reservation in a joint electorate the people who have been returned would, with a separate electorate, not have had the ghost of a chance of being returned. To illustrate I need only refer to the representation of the depressed classes in my own municipal council. The representative of the depressed classes there, was, for long years, a turn-cock in the waterworks of the municipality, and on the eve of the election some of the magnates of the town, thinking that he would be faithful and true to them as he was while in office, asked him to resign his post, pnt in his nomination paper and got him elected. And he was returned unopposed. Now what else can you expect to happen in a joint electorate? How can you expect a member from the depressed classes to truly represent his community when such a thing happens? I could quote several other instances where people professing to be representatives of the depressed classes or Muhammadans or Christians who have been

16th March 1932] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

returned in some cases unopposed and in other cases by an overwhelming majority, people who would not have even a proposer if the constituency had been confined wholly to the community. Positive and concrete instances of this can be cited. I am illustrating this only to show that separate electorate not merely in municipal councils and local boards but in other fields also is inevitable at least for the time being.

"As regards the inadequacy of the number of seats I need only say that during the time of the discussion of the passing of the Local Boards and Municipalities Acts fulsome assurances were given by the then Chief Minister as well as, if I may say so, by the present Chief Minister that the minorities were assured of 25 per cent through reservation, and that what they would be able to get in a general election would be over and above this 25 per cent. I could quote even extracts from their speeches, but I think it unnecessary to do so. May I just ask them in how many cases 25 per cent of the seats have been reserved? May I know what is the principle on which the number of reserved seats has been fixed? The principle, as I understand it, is that no community shall be given less than 50 per cent of what it would be entitled to on the strength of their population. As a principle it is a very good one. Because if the larger communities like the depressed classes were to be given representation in proportion to their population it is possible that 25 per cent of the seats now allotted by the Act may not suffice; and therefore that principle would have been perfectly justifiable provided the 25 per cent of the seats are all set apart for reservation. My complaint is that in many cases 25 per cent of the seats has not been allotted; and that as a matter of fact a very much lower figure has been set apart. Having said that, I must add that if there is one party in the country or in the Council in whose hands the interests of the minorities are perfectly safe it is the party which has the honour of being led by the hon. the Chief Minister. (Hear, hear.) And that is my answer to the charge of my Friend Mr. Nambiyar, and that is the reason for my making this appeal with a feeling of confidence to the hon. the Chief Minister, which I should not do to the pseudo-Congress Party which is now occupying the Opposition Benches."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"President, Sir, let me at the very outset congratulate my Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, for the gallant defence that he has put up on behalf of his own party, and particularly on behalf of the Chief Minister. Sir, the hon. Member from Tanjore has defended the Chief Minister in a strain worthy of Captain Bobadil.

"Coming to speak of the gentlemen who occupy the Transferred half of the Treasury Bench, it reminds me of a very significant definition that I have come across only recently. In the examination conducted by the Madras Services Commission for the recruitment of clerks for Government Service, one of the questions asked to test the general knowledge of the candidates was, what is meant by the term 'Minister.' The answer furnished by one of the candidates is very remarkable and significant, for which, I think, the Nobel Prize ought to be given him this year. His definition is: 'Ministers are mere

shadows who pass off for trees.' (Laughter.) Sir, I submit that there can be no truer definition of the hon. Gentlemen who sit opposite. Sir, how the Ministers have been mere shadows of the permanent executive without any policy of their own, the hon. Mover of the motion has detailed at great length. As has been pointed out by that gentleman, the third Minister has put an end to compulsory elementary education in this Province. It must be said to the credit of the gallant knight from Berhampur that he introduced compulsory elementary education in this Province. And it has to be said to the credit of the Third Minister, the hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar, that he has put an end to compulsory elementary education, and that the word 'compulsion' has become a dead letter. This is in itself a great condemnation of the Justice party which, in season and out of season, has been crying from house tops that it is the only and true champion of the interests of the masses of this Province.

"There is another point that has been made by the hon. the Mover of this motion, and that is, that this Ministry is responsible for appointing members of the Indian Civil Service to posts to which Provincial Service men could easily have been appointed. The posts are the Directorships of Agriculture and Industries. The less said about these, the better. I am not sorry that the legitimate aspirations of the Provincial Service men should have been overlooked. But I am only sorry that the Ministry should have gone against the definite recommendations of the Linlithgow Commission, which, as is well known, has been constituted by His Imperial Majesty for the specific purpose of laying down dictums for the guidance of the Indian Government.

"As regards the Minister in charge of Local Self-Government, I shall reserve my remarks on the administration of the Medical department, till that Demand comes up before this House, which I trust will be in a day or two. But I should like to take this opportunity to make a few observations on the administration of the Local Self-Government department. I state it with a full sense of responsibility that the hon. Gentleman has introduced into the local bodies all the 'turbulence of Westminister and the trickery of Grampound elections.' I am credibly informed, Sir, that in the matter of the constitution of wards for elections to taluk and district boards, the divisions in some districts have been so effected as to secure the return of his own partymen. It would appear that in some cases the hon. Minister has even set at naught the recommendations in this regard of the local bodies concerned. In spite of all that, the elections to these local bodies are being put off indefinitely and one knows not when they are going to come, perhaps at eternity. It is whispered, Sir, that these elections are being indefinitely postponed as the Chief Minister is afraid that his partymen would suffer if the elections were conducted now. I ask, Sir, whether it is right, whether it is proper, that a Minister should use his official powers to strengthen his party.

"Sir, I do not propose to take up the time of the House any further, and so I would only sum up what I have said. If this House agrees to the major and minor of the syllogism that I have put forward, viz.,

to use official powers for party advantages is an abuse of those powers, and that the present Ministry did use those powers in that manner, I would appeal, Sir, that it should come to the logical conclusion of that syllogism.

"*Thus using no arguments but such as Machiavelli might have* employed in his Conferences with Borgia, I feel convinced, Mr. President, that this Ministry deserves nothing but severe condemnation."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am sure hon. Gentlemen opposite as well as hon. Friends behind me will admit that both during the days while I was in office and during the 18 months that I have been the Leader of the Opposition, if I have done anything it is that I have taken very great care to see that no recrimination is made on the Members sitting on the opposite side. I am sorry that when, owing to urgent business, I had to go away the other afternoon, the hon. Chief Minister's wrath was rather roused. I am sure I did not give the hon. Gentleman any cause for it and if I had refused to take part in the debate, it was because I felt the debate would be innocuous. I carefully read the hon. Member's speech and I was reminded of the saying of Shakespeare in Macbeth. 'It is all sound and fury signifying nothing.' That is the only way I can describe the hon. Gentleman's speech. I do not mean to follow him either in his fulminations or in his wrath. (Hear, hear.) If I stand here to-day it is only because I feel that if there is any business to be done it is the business of bringing peace in the land so that the constitutional progress of the country may be assured, and that you may get on with the work of Constitution building. (Hear, hear.) I say it without fear of contradiction, I am sure hon. Members sitting on the other side and hon. Friends sitting on this side will not *dare* contradict me when I say that if the Constitutional problem is to be solved it can only be solved with the Congress in it. (Hear, hear.) We have been called pseudo-Congress men. I plead guilty to having sympathy with the Congress; in its demand to be masters in our own country and also because I feel, they are giving, through the All-India Spinners Association, the poor, the toiling millions of this Province a by-industry which gives them at least a meal a day, when it was not even possible to get that meal. Those women and children, who are suffering to-day, are suffering not because they want to suffer, but they are suffering because they own that through their suffering will come freedom to their Motherland. I am sure hon. Members will not contradict me when I say that there is an earnest feeling in this country that we should govern ourselves, whether ill or well, whether England does or does not allow us to govern ourselves. It has been often said that we are children in the art of government.

"I would like to ask the hon. Gentlemen, of the Reserved Half, I 12
am sorry they are not present here now, I would ask the three eminent P
Gentlemen who sit above the gangway to give a proper answer to the question I am propounding. The question is this. Are the Government prepared to get on really with the Constitutional Reforms to-day? I feel whatever may have been done, whatever the work of the Committees may be—I do not at all deny these are doing good work—I tell this to-day

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [16th March 1932

and I am sure I will remain uncontradicted. If Mr. Gandhi is let out of prison and he comes out and is prepared to accept 60 per cent of the National Demand the country will follow him and will say, 'We have attained Swaraj; we have attained Freedom.' On the other hand if all the eminent and hon. Gentlemen who constitute the Round Table Conference manage to get 90 per cent of the demand that Mr. Gandhi had put forward, as long as that frail soul is in prison, the country will cry out and say, 'We have not got what we wanted. We have not got what the country requires to-day.' That is the state of the country to-day. I know I may be contradicted. Gentlemen opposite may not agree with me. But I have travelled into the villages. I have been to the very interior of this country. I can assure hon. Gentlemen that is the feeling which is pulsating the heart beat of the masses. (Rao Sahib Venkataramayya Nayudu: 'Elections are not far off.') I am sorry the hon. Gentlemen evidently thinks all this a joke. If he thinks my speech an election speech I am prepared to give him an undertaking (Opposition voices: 'Ignore him. Don't take seriously.') I do not even want to stand for election. I am satisfied with that. But I am only making a statement on the heart beat of the people of the land. (Inaudible interruptions from Mr. Venkataramayya Nayudu.) The hon. Gentleman is so irrepressible that he cannot be repressed. Perhaps he will realize the truth of what I say when he is opposed at the election by the other school of politics. I was not talking for election purposes. I made it clear at the beginning of my speech that I was not talking for the pseudo party, or the Congress party or the Justice party. I am speaking as a man—as a man born of this land giving out the feeling that is pulsating the masses of this land I say this. If the Constitutional problem is going to be solved, it can only be solved with the Congress in it; it can only be solved with that frail figure at whom you may laugh. But he does carry the masses with him. He does represent the soul of Freedom of this land and that is all I am referring to. I am only saying that if this problem is to be solved, it can only be solved with that frail figure at the table. It can never be solved without him. I am glad at least the Right hon. Gentleman, the Secretary of State for India, has had the wisdom to see it. He has regretted time and again in spite of whatever he might have stated in the House of Commons that he regrets the absence of the most well-organized party in the country at the Table of the Conference. I am sure he is voicing the feeling of his own countrymen when he says it and it is only that, I am reiterating, that without that frail figure you cannot and will not solve the Constitutional problem. (Opposition cheers.) I hope the Justice party and the hon. the Ministers will take note of what I have said and do what they think it best to bring this situation about so that the work of constitution building may proceed uninterrupted."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro then rose to speak.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The Demand has to be put to vote at 1-15. The Chief Minister has to reply."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I know there is not time enough for full discussion and therefore I am to be very brief. After the very

16th March 1932] [Sir A. P. Patro]

emotional address to which we have listened from Dr. Subbarayan, I feel very much constrained to enter into a discussion of the principle he has raised in his very feeling speech. Nevertheless it ought not to go without any comment or criticism on the part of those who disagree with the position which he has taken. For that reason I crave leave to stand to reply. We all know that Dr. Subbarayan is a very able advocate. He realizes more than anyone that no one can see his back. (Laughter.) Therefore he is very wise in avoiding or to use the language of my hon. Friend Mr. Hameed Khan ' acts of omission or commission ' during the long period when he occupied the front seat. After all the acts of omission and commission during his period it is to-day that the Leader of the Opposition has realized more than ever that to govern ourselves is the policy of India. He is still a baby in politics. The Congress and other National associations have stated the ideal that we want Swaraj. The Government of India Despatch on the Reforms Report of the Simon Commission has laid down unmistakably that it is no longer possible for the Government to take the passive consent of the people but it is by active co-operation of the people that the administration of India is to be carried on. What more could be said in a policy, Sir, unmistakably stated in a Despatch of Lord Irwin and accepted by the Parliament. No longer it is possible for India to be governed with the passive consent of the people but active co-operation and consent of the people. I have quoted this before. So that here is the position to which the Government is committed and people have assented to. There is nothing new in the proposition which the hon. Member laid down for the benefit of the Justice party. On the other hand the Justice party co-operating with the Simon Commission have stated most unmistakably without equivocation,—a statement which the hon. Member representing the City has alluded—most unmistakably have stated, myself as Chairman of the Committee I said: Responsibility in the provinces will be shell without substance. Never that has been altered to my knowledge. If a cable has come from interested sources with a view to modify that position that statement ought to be condemned inasmuch as they are said in newspapers by correspondents in whom the Member representing the City seems to have full confidence. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: ' I want your contradiction. ') During the last plenary session also the same statement was made. If the hon. Member representing the City is still in ignorance and expects to be and boosted by certain class of newspapers, then I am very sorry for him. I have always had regard for his caution and business-like habits. Now I see he is incapable of being relied upon at all. Therefore the question I was about to say is this. Govern ourselves is the theme which we should all bear in mind in this House. Certainly no one here in this House, I do not think any one in this country, does not admire the great influence which Mr. Gandhi has in the land. I yield to none in my appreciation of the great man. But as a statesman he carried no conviction. I am afraid I differ from what Dr. Subbarayan has said or any one may say. Having come with him in close quarters years before when he first came out of South Africa and

having worked with him in close quarters I have personal admiration for Mahatma Gandhi, truly for his selfless character. His sincerity is such that it would evoke admiration from everyone of us. But if you propose in politics he is an authority it is a statement that I cannot follow. That the country could be led by an idealist is not practical. It seems to me it is very difficult for anyone to follow him fully. As *regards my hon. Friend from Coimbatore,* as I said yesterday, he is easily *amenable to confusion. (Laughter.)* Once in a way he has spoken clear. (Laughter.) Apart from that he said that the Justice party was holding office in spite of all that has been said before them. I am really surprised what their position was at the time of formation of last Ministry. Time and again we have been asking for representative Government and we have been asking for democracy and if the Governor has called the party which has a majority to form a Ministry, is it a crime, is it wrong? My friend representing the City of Madras knows best whether I am wrong. (Hear, hear.) Then again, we know it very well that it has been said that the Justice party has been working diarchy which has been condemned all round. Quite so. What is the position of the United Nationalist party? As the hon. Member for the City has put forward, I am not ashamed of being one of the Congress party to accept working of Reforms. What is their business if they don't believe in diarchy and if diarchy cannot be worked in such a manner for the best interests of the country? (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: 'To keep power in check.') Absolutely no business there. (A voice: 'To expose you.') Expose us? When they try to expose us they expose themselves; they show their impotency and inconsistency. (Laughter.) Their presence here does not count. It may be that their Nationalist Press may support them. It may be that the Nationalist Press may boost them. But it must be realized that we are doing practical work and that is better than a cart-load of talk. (Hear, hear.) We have shown that we are capable of working the diarchic system for the best advantage of the people. In the matter of the rural development policy and in regard to increasing the material advantage of the people, we have done our
1. best. It has been accepted even by Congressmen. Therefore there is absolutely no necessity for my friends to go out of the way and say that the Justice party accepted office and therefore committed the greatest political crime. If that is so, I am willing to accept that charge and plead guilty to it in the interests of millions of people to whom it has done good service. Even now, I hope my Friend representing the Madras City would realize that there was absolutely no inconsistency, no change of policy, but all through one consistent, steady policy of working for the best interests of the country at large."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" Sir, the Mover of the motion, Mr. Hameed Khan, confined himself as far as possible to matters mainly relevant to the motion itself. He drew pointed attention to certain acts of omission and commission of the Ministry; other Members have however devoted a large part of their speeches to what took place on Monday. So I shall attempt in my reply to meet the observation first with regard to that.

16th March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

"Sir, I am glad to note from the hon. the Leader of the Opposition *that he and his party were actuated by a feeling not to non-co-operate* in any way with any party in this House but to create a spirit of goodwill among all classes and all parties, so that before the eve of the Reforms we shall be able to put our heads together and do something to indicate in our own way what the country wants. Judged from that basis, Sir, I feel at one with the Members of that party but only regret that that spirit which animates them now was practically abandoned on Monday when they chose not to take part in that debate. I may say, Sir, that I am actuated by the same spirit of goodwill and I am trying to see to what extent I can co-operate with the Opposition, to bring about good feeling among all parties. But I must say that the incidents which led up to the famous declaration of the Leader of the Opposition that he and his party would not participate in that debate on Monday do not show that he has been quite fair to the other parties.

"Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti said that I had not co-operated with the Opposition. If the Opposition failed to show courtesy and reciprocity which is necessary for good feeling, how can I co-operate with them? I am glad that there was an occasion to-day at least for them to participate in the debate and talk out on what took place on Monday, but even to-day they do not say what they want except asking 'what is your view.' Is that a thing which makes for co-operation, I ask? If it is merely for the purpose of raising a debate, for the purpose of merely stating their opinion, the Opposition have got many methods by which they can do it. National demands are hung upon cut motions in the Budget; and I do not see what prevents the Leader of the Opposition, if he *does not want to take part on a particular motion, to talk on any of the* other cut motions. Also I am glad that my hon. Friend the Member for Madras let out a secret as to the attitude they are adopting. They do not possibly like that the particular motion on which the debate was raised should be preferred to other motions. If so, there was the motion by my hon. Friend, Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar. I tried my very best to see if they could agree upon any motion, but apart from saying that, as it raised a Constitutional issue, they could not participate in it, they did not do anything. What actuated them to say that they would not participate in that debate? Possibly I may be wrong, but their idea seems to be that it should not go to the credit of the Ministerialist Party. (Laughter.) If that party had expressed a desire to concentrate on any other motion, there would have been justification for saying that they were not given a chance to talk on the motion on which this question was raised. I therefore think that there is not much point in it. It may be seen that no Party in Office, while they may be anxious to go as far as possible to meet the Opposition, could submit itself to be dictated to by the Opposition. There was an attempt to dictate and I said I could not be a party to it. If the future conduct of that party makes me believe that there is a genuine wish for co-operation, I will give it; and nothing shall be wanting on my part to make that co-operation a fact. Here are culminations—I am using the word my hon. Friends used—from the

youngest member of a party recruited from students, who is beyond all possible control of himself. I mean, Mr. Arasu. He rose into prominence one fine morning by going into the country and telling the Government that he would fight Civil Disobedience Movement, and asking Collectors to place Travellers bungalows at his disposal and in other ways making the Government believe that he is a staunch adherent to the policy of the Government. That is why he is nominated. And what is his attitude now? That is the kind of man who is to judge of the actions of the Party in Office. He is not even a member of any local body and he has no working knowledge at all, but still he has the cheek to talk of trickery in the elections. I throw a challenge direct to him if he knows anything of a union or taluk board. He talks in an irresponsible manner. To whom is he responsible except to himself for his misdeeds and the misstatements that he made—irresponsible statements not worthy of any Member of this House?"

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" On a personal explanation, Sir, as the hon. Minister has asked me one direct question as to whom I represent, I may straightaway tell him that I was nominated by His Excellency the Governor not because I was nobody, but because I was somebody and had some following in the country. If the hon. Minister doubts that, and since he has thrown an aspersion and insulted the intelligence of His Excellency the Governor, I am prepared to state on the floor of this House that I will vindicate His Excellency if the hon. Minister would ask his Secretary, Mr. Sundara Rao Nayudu, to resign his membership and allow me to contest it with him. Let the hon. Minister accept this challenge, if he dare."

* The hon. the President :—" I do not think any insult was meant."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" I wish to know what the hon. the Chief Minister meant by ' misdeeds ' of an hon. Member of this House. He ought to withdraw that word."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" If I used the word ' misdeeds ' I withdraw it and use the word ' misstatements.'

" Then, it was said that the Ministers generally are mere shadows. I expect my friend to be a little more responsible in what he states, and not merely fling at others anything that he likes without an iota of fact to substantiate his statement. It is possible for any man to make himself a nuisance in the House."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti :—" May I know if the hon. Minister is proper in saying that any member might make himself a nuisance in this House, referring to Mr. Arasu?"

* The hon. the President :—" Did the hon. Member mean it in connexion with Mr. Arasu?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" Yes, I did mean it; I am prepared to withdraw it.

"Then, if there was an impression that I tried to please the members of my party with regard to the administration of the subjects in my charge, I can certainly say that there was no such thing in my mind. I am certainly well able to face all the criticisms of the opposition.

"Then the other charge that was levelled against me was in regard to the passing of the Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, a charge for which there is no case. That the toll-gates must go was a thing recommended by the Road Committee, and also strongly voiced by the motor users and others. Also there was sufficient public opinion for the abolition of the toll-gates, and after considering as to how that opinion could be translated into practice, I introduced a Bill, and all sections of the House co-operated with me to get the Bill through the Select Committee. May I also add that the party represented by my friend Mr. Luker took an active part in the fixing up of the various scales of taxation. The Select Committee came with a definite recommendation that the Bill must be passed without any delay and it must be given effect to from 1st April 1932. It was under these conditions that the Bill was introduced and passed. I do not think anybody would say anything against the Bill on principle. What is said against it is that in the working of it, their expectations in regard to the income have not been fulfilled. I realize it. That question has been discussed on the floor of this House and referred to a Committee. The Committee is considering the various suggestions put before them. I am indeed thankful to Mr. Luker for the various suggestions made to the Government in the matter of tackling this question. One of the suggestions related to the taxing of the bullock carts. I do not know how far the country is prepared to tax the bullock carts. I do not know whether he would like to have the toll-gates revived not only for bullock carts, but for motor cars also. (Laughter.) That is the main test. If the toll-gates be revived it will be in respect of all vehicles; if it is not to be revived, the Act will have to be there, and there can be no question of taxing the bullock carts only by setting up toll-gates. There is power in local bodies and panchayats, if they want, to tax bullock carts, not through toll-gates but otherwise.

"Then, Sir, there are other points referred to, with regard to the amendments to the Local Boards Act. Sir, the responsibility for that originated with the Leader of the Opposition, though I do not say that it was even then understood that the elections would be conducted so quickly. Even at present, I have got the preliminaries settled, and arrangements are made for the preparation of the electoral rolls within the time fixed. We have finished the elections so far as the municipal councils are concerned. The elections to the local boards have to be held up owing to some proposals pending in the Revenue Department, in regard to the bifurcation or abolition of some districts or grouping of certain divisions in districts. I do hope that the elections will be held as quickly as possible. But I may say here that the date on which the elections will be held will depend on the quickness with which the Revenue Department will be able to decide their own questions and intimate to us in what month the elections could take place.

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [16th March 1932

"In regard to the various proposals that have come up before me, I can only say this. It may be, as my friend said, I have not been able to please my own party, nor do I say that I have been trying to please the opposition. All I can say is that I have been trying to do my utmost for furthering the interests of the general tax-payers of the country and not of the sitting Members here.

15 .m. "I am sure if there was anything which could be made a matter for censure by the Opposition it must be this: that Members of the Opposition Benches expected to be Members of the Government and that, because they failed, they want to censure the Ministry. If that is the ground on which the Opposition wants to pass a censure motion, then I am afraid they have given up their case.

"Sir, a question was raised with regard to repression and also with regard to a Government Order that was issued in connexion with the hoisting of a National Flag, by the Leader of the Opposition. My Friend, Mr. Nambiyar, referred to the elections next time and said whether I could face the electorate with any hopes of success. Sir, if the next election is to be contested on that issue, then I dare say there is not much for both of us to pick and choose. A voice: 'Both of you go.' I very well expected that statement.

"Sir, apart from that question, so far as repression is concerned, it is not merely that this Province is concerned with the question of maintaining law and order, but also other Provinces. It is really not possible to discuss that question and say as to what passes in any cabinet. I am sure the hon. the Home Member will answer these charges sufficiently well. (Laughter.) Well, my hon. Firend asked 'What did you do inside the Cabinet; why did you co-operate with the Government knowing as you did the consequences of your action.' My only answer to that is that, if you will co-operate with us without causing the least inconvenience to us till peace is restored, then you will realize what attempts we made to bring about that peace. (A voice: 'Why don't you do that, you are a Member of a big party.') Sir, the only appeal that I would make to my hon. Friends on the Opposition Benches is this, 'If you do your part of the duty, the Government will do their part to see that these things do not recur.' I am glad that in this at least the hand of co-operation is extended to me. I am prepared to attend any meetings with my hon. Friends on the other side, to ask people not to break the laws of the country. That is not the way of achieving *swaraj*.

"Sir, with regard to rural reconstruction, I have to point out that we have not done enough owing to financial stringency for the purpose of improving rural roads, digging wells and so forth. Though it has not been possible to continue the activities in several other directions, a decent amount is budgeted for this year, for rural reconstruction.

"Well, I have nothing more to add. If within these 18 months I have not satisfied the Opposition, I shall not be sorry for it. I do

16th March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

not think any Opposition which is legally constituted would be satisfied with the Party in Power. I can say that in everything that has been possible to undertake we have tried our best and if we have not been able within this term to put forth on the Legislative anvil any necessary legislation, it is not due to want of sympathy with regard to those subjects, but it is due to want of time for sufficently thrashing out those subjects on which we want to legislate. I was referring to the Municipal Bill."

The cut motion was put and lost.

Demand XI—Ministers, Civil Secretariats and Miscellaneous—Transferred, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,24,100 was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—RESERVED

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,51,000 under Demand No. XII—Administration of Justice—Reserved*'."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 78,51,000 for Administration of Justice be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

" Sir, I move this motion not to obstruct the business of the Council but to point out to the Government the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the dispensation of justice in this Presidency. When there was a discussion on the floor of this House on the question of the separation of Judiciary from Executive, I pointed out that there were defects in the administration of justice in criminal courts. I do not want to refer at this stage to the administration of justiec as meted out by criminal courts. Now I confine myself to the civil courts. The report published by the Government giving the statistics of the civil and criminal courts deal with the quantity and not with the quality of work turned out.

" Now I should speak about the defects which I have gathered from my experience. Recently on account of retrenchment, Courts of District Munsifs and Sub-Judges were abolished in certain districts and the abolition of these courts resulted in the dislocation of business and inconvenience to most of the litigant public. As you are aware, a large amount of court-fees is being received by the Government and they have not suffered any loss by keeping any of these civil courts. There is no justification for the abolition of these courts. In my own district the District Munsif Court of Palamcottah was abolished. It was intended for the people of two taluks, namely, Nanguneri and Tinnevelly. The abolition of the Munsif's Court has caused much more inconvenience

[Mr. M. Devadasan] [16th March 1932

to the people of those taluks than what Government seem to think. Now the people of these taluks have to travel 50 or 60 miles to go to another District Munsif's Court to which jurisdiction these taluks have been transferred, which means heavy expenditure to the public.

"Sir, coming next to Revenue Courts, I want to say a few words. Summary suits are filed before the Divisional Officers under the Madras Estates Land Act. Sometimes a number of suits are filed by the same party. Before one suit is disposed of another suit is filed by the same man against the same party on a different cause of action and the Divisional Officers take a long time to dispose of them. None of the summary suits filed before them becomes final. Almost all of them are taken on appeal to the civil courts with the result that it causes considerable expense to the parties. In connection with the trial of summary suits I have to point out that a large amount of influence is being exercised by landlords over the Divisional Officers. In a case between a landlord and the tenant the tenant gets worsted and the landlord gets the upper hand and the administration of justice in the case of summary suits in Revenue Courts is not so satisfactory as it ought to be.

"Then, coming to the Insolvency Courts, there are a large number of petitions admitted and only a small number of men have been discharged. Year after year insolvency petitions have been increasing. In the year 1930 there had been 4,893 insolvency petitions as against 4,360 in 1920. It is quite true that insolvents should get protection according to the Insolvency law, but protection afforded to the insolvents should not be such as to encourage the people to rush to Insolvency Courts to the detriment of the creditors. Such of those persons as rush to Insolvency Courts must be asked to disclose all their assets, so that they may be utilized for the benefit of the creditors. In most cases the insolvent petitioners hide their assets and defraud the creditors.

"Sir, the next point that I want to speak is about the village and panchayat courts. The total number of suits filed in 1930 in the Courts of Original jurisdiction is reported to have been 551,779 and out of these 243,409 have been filed in the panchayat and village courts. So much so it will be seen that half the suits that should have been filed in civil courts of higher jurisdiction have been filed in the village and panchayat courts. The reason for this increase of suits is the non-payment of court-fees for suits filed in village and panchayat courts. I must say that a certain amount of check is necessary for the institution of suits in courts of this kind. In certain districts it appears from statement No. 8 of statistics of civil courts some of the village and panchayat courts take cognizance of cases whose values do not exceed Rs. 500 but the rule appears to be that they could not take cognizance of suits whose value exceeds Rs. 50. In Village and Panchayat courts it so happens that no suits are filed without consulting the village munsif or the president of the panchayat court. The administration of justice in the village

16th March 1932] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

and panchayat courts is not so satisfactory, just and impartial as it ought to be. In most of the villages there is faction which results in the division of many of the villagers.

"As a result of these factions there is always some likelihood of injustice being done due to party feelings. The District Collector of North Arcot has reported to the High Court that the Panchayat Courts in his district are all riddled with party factions and that they require time, patience and careful supervision for their proper functioning. This phenomenon is common to every district and it is not peculiar to North Arcot alone. The existence of one faction or other in every village results in the administration of justice being brought to a standstill."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

III.—ALLOTMENT OF A SEPARATE DAY FOR THE DISCUSSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS.

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I crave your permission to ask the hon. the Leader of the House to make a statement as to the arrangement of business for the next few days. I wish to do so because as the hon. the Leader of the House knows I wrote to him asking to give a day for the discussion of a motion on the subject of the pending Constitutional Reforms. The wording of my motion is well known to all as it has already appeared in the Press. The hon. the Leader of the House said that he would consult the hon. the Chief Minister and let me know what can be done. At the same time he mentioned that unless there was some unanimity it would be difficult to get a motion of that kind discussed in the House. On that suggestion I tried to amend the motion so as to make it acceptable to the other parties. Even in the watered-down form in which the motion now stands, I find that it is not acceptable to some of the members of the other parties. I may recall to your mind, Mr. President, that the question of speeding up of the next instalment of Reforms was raised by the hon. Member for West Godavari on a cut motion on the Demand relating to the Heads of Provinces. I said then that our Party could not agree to discuss the very important question of Constitutional Reforms on a cut motion like that, and I explained the reasons for the abstention of my Party. I stated then that a cut motion was only a cut motion and that, even if it was carried, its effect would be to reduce the allotment by the amount mentioned in the cut motion. It is only by the courtesy of you, Mr. President, that the reasons for the cut motion are given along with the notice of the motion. In this case the object was given to be the speeding up of the Reforms which is too vague to signify any definite decision on the part of the Council. And as it did not form part of the actual motion carried in the House, it could not of course be amended."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I do not think the hon. the Leader of the Opposition is in order in discussing the merits of a cut motion as compared with other motions."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I am not discussing the merits of a cut motion. I am only pointing out why it is not possible to carry a resolution on Constitutional Reforms because, as I said before, a cut motion is only a cut motion for the reduction of a certain amount from the allotment in the Demand and it is only by your courtesy that Members specify the object of their motion in the notice they send to the office. In that sense I submit that a discussion has not really taken place, although the hon. the Revenue Member promised to forward the debate to the authorities concerned.

" I do not want to say anything with regard to the speech of the hon. the Chief Minister, because I think that has already been dealt with and we can regard the matter as closed now. But may I submit, Mr. President, that the position taken up is not a satisfactory position? May I also remind hon. Members that unanimity on a motion like this is not easy to obtain? Besides the reasons for putting down a motion of that kind is to try and convert people who may not be convinced by the mere wording of the motion by showing them what exactly is the scope of the motion and what is in the mind of hon. Members who have put down the motion on paper. It is only after a full discussion on the motion that hon. Members can realize whether what is asked for in the motion is advantageous to the country or not. In that sense I feel that it is right and proper that an opportunity should be given for a discussion on this Constitutional question. I may remind the hon. the Leader of the House that even in the House of Commons the motion on Indian Constitutional Reforms was put forward as a separate motion and discussed and a vote was taken on it. It is only a separate discussion and voting on the question that will show the feeling of the House clearly. For these reasons, I hope that the hon. the Leader of the House will be convinced that it is only right that a separate day should be allotted for the discussion of this motion."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, the Budget days have been fixed by His Excellency the Governor. In order that one of these days allotted for the Budget should be utilized for the purpose of discussing a resolution on Constitutional Reforms, Government feel that there should be unanimity in the Council on the point. At least the Leaders of the Parties should agree to forego one of the days allotted for the Budget discussion and utilize it for this purpose. If there is that unanimity, even now the Government will be prepared to advise His Excellency the Governor to allot one day for that purpose. In the absence of any such unanimity Government feel that they cannot request His Excellency to cancel one of the days allotted for the Budget discussion and utilize it for the discussion of a resolution on Constitutional Reforms."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is true that a discussion on the resolution in the form in which it was put by the hon. the Leader of the Opposition was not agreed to by us. But I have not seen the form in which he says he has amended it so as to suit the views of other parties."

16th March 1932]

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" I have already sent a copy to the hon. the Leader of the House."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I have not seen it at all. We wanted some amendments to be made to the latter portion of the resolution and the hon. the Leader of the Opposition was not willing to make them."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" They were made subsequently."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" If my hon. Friend's move is to have a motion talked out in the Council and probably voted down, it is a quite different matter. If, on the other hand, he wants the House to discuss and pass a motion which will indicate the view of the House as a whole, I am quite as anxious as he is to have a day allotted for this purpose even at the risk of cutting out a day allotted for the discussion of the Budget. But if it is merely putting any motion on the paper which will give rise to counter motions and rouse party feelings, I for one see no purpose in it. Even now I am quite prepared to discuss the matter with him so that we may see whether we cannot come to some sort of agreement on the nature of the resolution to be tabled."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" As I already said, I have told the hon. the Home Member the utmost limit to which we will be prepared to go. I handed him a copy of the motion three days ago. Am I to take it that if there is no unanimity on the wording of the motion, that is to say, if the motion is not a unanimous motion, Government is not prepared to give a day for the discussion of this subject? Possibly it is the effect of the answer given by the hon. the Home Member. If it is so, I would like him to make this point clear."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" What I have said is there must be unanimity with regard to the foregoing of a day allotted for the discussion of the Budget."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The best thing at this stage will be for the Leaders of Parties to come together, discuss the matter and come to some conclusion before they ask the Government to allot a day for the discussion of the resolution. When unanimity is not obtainable, I do not think there is any use of further pursuing the matter at present."

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, FOR 1932-33—*cont.*

DEMAND XII—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE—RESERVED—*cont.*

*Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—" Sir, in continuation of my speech this morning I want to refer to the constitution of the panchayats and the village courts. The panchayat courts are composed of members elected by the people. In reply to an interpellation whether there were members of depressed classes in the panchayat courts of Tinnevelly the hon. the Law Member said that he was not prepared to call for the necessary information as the constitution of the courts was made through election. There are very few members of the depressed classes in the panchayat

[Mr. M. Devadasan] [16th March 1932

courts. But in the village courts there are none at all. According to the Hereditary Village Officers Act, only caste Hindus happen to be village munsifs and village magistrates. As these village magistrates who are all caste men are administering justice in the villages, they are entirely unfavourable to the depressed classes. I do not want to refer to all the irregularities on this occasion, but I must point out some of the irregularities in the working of these courts.

45 m. "In some cases, suits are filed splitting the cause of action. Sometimes a party files two suits, one against the father and another against the son claiming the maximum amount to be recovered from each of them in the panchayat court or in the village munsif's court. If there is no opposition, and if there is no protest, a decree is passed.

"I want to refer to other instances also. If there is no protest in the cases brought in contravention of the section 13 of the village Courts Act, Village Munsifs pass decrees against the parties. The result is injustice. I have to bring to the notice of the House another instance in which injustice was done to a member of the depressed classes. He had to remove a portion of his fence in his field for carting manure; in so doing, he damaged a portion of the field of his neighbour who was a Marava. It is alleged that he had entered into a contract with the neighbour, for the removal of timber and that he did not pay the amount due on the contract. A suit was filed by the Marava against him in a village court. Even though he moved the District Munsif's Court for the transfer of the case, he did not succeed, and a decree was passed against him. In such cases the village munsif joins one of the parties and passes decrees against the other party. Suits filed in the village munsif's courts are recorded to appear to have been filed 10 or 15 days before the actual presentation of the suits. Summons are issued and served on the parties only one or two days before the date of hearing and in such cases it will be impossible for the defendants to apply to the District Munsifs' Courts for the transfer of the cases under section 20-A. Even if a party applies to the village munsif for adjournment, apprehending injustice, it is not given. Even if the party moves the District Munsif's Court for transfer of the case and even though an order of stay is passed on the village munsif, the latter joins with the other party and records to have passed a decree in the absence of the other party. The records of the village munsif are fabricated to prevent justice being done to the party who asks for transfer of the case under the Village Courts Act. If he moves the District Munsif's Court for setting aside the order, he is asked by the District Munsif to go back to the village munsif's court where the decree was said to have been passed, to set aside the ex parte decree. While in fact the village munsif passed a decree wilfully and wantonly, it would be impossible for the party to have the decree set aside by the village munsif. These are the difficulties experienced by the litigant population in the villages and even if the matter is taken to the District Munsif's Court, under section 73, people are not able to get adequate justice. It is high time that the provisions of the Village Courts Act should be amended.

16th March 1932] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

" With regard to Criminal Courts, I referred yesterday to some of the difficulties experienced by clients. Most of the Magistrates establish relationship with some people of the district and it becomes difficult for poor people to get justice against rich men when the case is between the poor and the rich. Conviction is often the result of Police cases. But in the majority of private cases—cognizable or non-cognizable—the Magistrates acquit or discharge the accused. The Magistrates have implicit confidence in the words of the Police, whether they are true or false; but in private cases, the Magistrates do not care to find out the truth, since nobody can check them.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, told us the other day that in a forest case in which he appeared, people were convicted though it was a false case. It is not peculiar to his own district; and the same is the case with other districts also. In forest, excise or motor cases, the Magistrates give more weight to the Police whether the cases are true or not.

" In conclusion, I must say that justice is not administered in the interests of the people. If the Government were to last long, it must be on the impartial administration of justice. If proper justice is not rendered to people, it will be very difficult for the Government to secure the co-operation of the people. The Government may think that these matters are trivial, but I must say that the Government should consider all these as essential to the happiness of the people.

" Before I conclude, I must refer to one fact. An order under Section 144 was passed against my hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam in the name of justice. The Sub-Magistrate and the local Police and the District Magistrate were inclined to help him in taking a procession along a public street. But the Divisional Magistrate passed an order against him. In the name of law and order, injustice has been done to him if his statement is true. It is for the Government to see that such injustice is not done. In cases where there have been violations of law and where powers have been used to the disadvantage of one section of the people as against the other, I appeal to the hon. the Law Member to check the abuse of power. If there is anything wrong, it is for the Government to rectify it and to see that every subject of His Majesty gets the impartial administration of justice. With these words, I move my motion."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member one or two points about the convictions that have been passed in the case of political prisoners recently. Of course those who break the law, must be prepared to be punished by courts of law. But at the same time, I should say this: during the last four or five months I find that the punishments awarded are more severe than they need be for the offences that have been committed. Imprisonment for 18 months, two and for even three years and fines amounting to Rs. 1,000 have been imposed on some of these people. Of course I agree that people who choose to break the law should pay the penalty for doing so. As the hon. the Home Member of the Central Provinces said the other day, I feel that the hon. the Law Member should review the sentences passed on these people

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [16th March 1932

and see whether, in his opinion these punishments are not more than these people deserve. I wish to mention the case of Mr. Satyamurti, not because I feel that he is any the more important than any other persons who have been convicted, but merely because the offence was committed in the City of Madras and because I know the punishment that was meted out to him. I am mentioning his case only as an example. The hon. the Law Member will remember that Mr. Satyamurti was charged under two different counts. The first charge was under section 17 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. It is a fact that he was managing the business of an association which had been declared unlawful. He was tried for that and awarded a sentence of 12 months. Then he was charged also for the offence under the Ordinance, for distributing, leaflets about picketing and other offences. He was tried for that offence and given another six months. Mr. Rajagopalachari was also convicted for the same offence and he was awarded only six months. Really speaking, these two gentlemen were punished for the same offence and I feel it comes rather hard on Mr. Satyamurti that he should get 18 months for an offence which was committed by his co-accused, Mr. Rajagopalachari. I feel that injustice has been done in the case of Mr. Satyamurti. Eighteen months have been awarded for the same offence for which another gentleman got six months. Therefore I hope the hon. the Law Member will go into the question by calling for the records. I am only mentioning Mr. Satyamurti's case as an example; but there are cases all over the Province wherein I have seen that fines imposed and terms of imprisonment awarded are more severe than they need be for the offences that have been committed. I hope that the hon. the Law Member will go into the matter sympathetically and see whether anything cannot be done to reduce sentences on such persons."

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of two cut motions with reference to this demand. The object of one of the motions is to draw the attention of the Government to the way in which Judicial Officers are being treated in the matter of filling up of permanent vacancies in the department."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The main discussion is about motion No. 298 which deals with the unsatisfactory state of affairs in the dispensation of justice. If the hon. Member desires to speak on that point, he may do so."

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—" I hope I will be given the opportunity of moving my cut motions."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" It depends upon the time available."

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—" The matter of the cut motion I have given notice of, in a way relates to the Administration of Justice which is covered by the motion brought forward by my friend Mr. Devadasan. In filling up the permanent vacancies in the department, there are certain grievances which I wish to bring to the notice of the Government. On account of the economic depression and the consequent fall in the revenue of the Government, the Govern-

16th March 1932] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

this end in view, they issued a Government Order directing that no vacancy should be filled up after the 15th of August 1931. The consequence is that several officers who have put in 20 and 25 years of service and who have been acting as Sub-Judges for a number of years are still kept on as acting Sub-Judges, and I am told some of them are to retire in a couple of months, as acting Sub-Judges. ' If the Government Order had been made applicable uniformly to all the departments, there would be no legitimate complaint against the policy of the Government; but I see, Sir, that in every Gazette that is issued week after week, the vacancies in other departments are permanently filled up while the vacancies in the cadre of Sub-Judges in the Judicial Department are alone kept vacant. That is a matter which I wish to place before the hon. the Law Member and I wish to ask him whether he is aware of the distinction that is being made between the Judicial Department and the other departments in this respect and whether there is any good reason for making that invidious distinction.

" The other point that I wish to urge on the hon. the Law Member is this: the way in which the cases are being disposed of in the civil courts. It is common knowledge that the civil courts are, as a rule, self-supporting, and if the department is taken as a whole, the Judicial Department is bringing in more and more profits and surpluses to the Government. Jurisdiction is being added to the Sub-Judges and the District Judges. There is the ordinary civil and criminal work; there is insolvency work; there is election dispute work; there is Religious Endowments work; there is land acquisition work. They are very much hard-worked, and yet they are not able to dispose of the cases of the normal litigant public as speedily as they ought to be able to do. They cannot be blamed for this. The result is that justice is delayed, and justice delayed is very often justice denied. That is the state of affairs which I hope the hon. the Law Member would try to put an end to, by giving more facilities to the litigant public for the speedy disposal of their cases, by continuing the additional Judges. If we go to the District Munsifs' Courts, the conditions there are not any the better. The number of cases one would consider as normal work for a Munsif's Court cannot be more than 300 or 350 cases; but what is it that we find? So far at any rate as my district is concerned, I find that there are something like 700 or 800 cases on the files of District Munsifs. That is certainly an abnormal state of affairs, so far as the work of District Munsifs is concerned. With these heavy arrears in the Munsifs' Courts, it is surprising that the Government, even in the interests of retrenchment, or even for financial considerations, should think of abolishing the additional courts that are now functioning. Even with the additional courts now functioning, we have these arrears. If the additional courts are to be abolished, and if from the beginning of the next financial year we are to be without these additional courts, I am afraid, Sir, the litigant public would be very much inconvenienced, and the ultimate result might be disastrous even to the Government, because the litigant public might get disgusted with the courts and they might even stop going to the courts. Where the

[Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari] [16th March 1932

Government expect to save, they will be ultimately losing. I would therefore urge on the attention of the Government these considerations in connexion with the provision made for the next financial year for the Administration of Civil Justice in this Presidency."

* Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I support the motion moved by Mr. Devadasan. Sir, it is true that as far as the depressed classes are concerned, dispensation of justice in the proper way is not being done in some cases. There is a village near Madras, Ponneri, where some of the Adi-Dravidas were belaboured and they even went to the doctor and got a certificate; but nobody would give evidence on behalf of the Adi-Dravidas. The village munsif is afraid of the Police and doctors are afraid of giving certificates or evidence. So, the men were placed before a Magistrate in Chingleput, and in spite of our having engaged a vakil for the Adi-Dravidas, on the evidence of two constables, one man was convicted and he had to undergo one year or one year and six months' imprisonment. There are some cases like that. So, I request the hon. Law Member to see that no man is punished on the evidence of the Police constables alone. If the Evidence Act is to be amended you are here to do it—the Legislative Council is here to do it. If we find that any of our Acts is doing wrong to the people, why should we not have it amended? It is in the power of the Council. Of course the Law Member will see that it is done. Not only that, Sir. It is better that people are not punished on the evidence of Police constables, or Sub-Inspectors. It is always better that independent evidence is taken before punishing the people. This must apply even in political cases.

" Another request I have to make to the Law Member. The District Magistrate or District Judge does not care for the medical certificate produced from medical people, whatever their status may be. Sir, I gave a certificate in the case of the late Mr. Manickam Naicker a few months ago that he was suffering from high blood pressure and that if he went to Trichinopoly, he would die. But the Magistrate refused to accept the certificate. Then the appeal came to the High Court—and I am glad, Sir, our High Court is constituted most efficiently—the High Court Judge accepted the certificate and a few months hence Mr. Manickam Naicker died. Why should the Judge think that that medical certificate was not enough?

" Another thing I request the Law Member to look into. That is, the benefit of the doubt should always be given to the accused. Why should a certificate which states there is high blood pressure—280 per minute—be not accepted? Probably the Judge did not know what it was. These people should have a knowledge of medicine too—these Judges.

" Sir, all these grievances will be put an end to if recruitment is made according to the various communities. There is of course the communal Government Order. I must request the hon. the Law Member to see that the communal Government Order is applied

16th March 1932] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

district-war. The Andhras say 'we are not represented', the Tamil people say 'we are not sufficiently represented; we are here in Tamil Nadu, Tamils and Telugus exist from Madras to Cape Comorin. So, they also say they are not satisfied; and the Kanarese people say they are also not satisfied. Then, what about Malabar? The Malabar people say they are not satisfied. So, I say, let them recruit people district war. I say district-war, not without the communal Government Order. I say with communal Government Order, district-war. I say communal Government Order, district-war—that is the request I make. If that is done, I do not think there will be any more trouble. One head of the department tells me 'What am I to do? The Madras Services Commission gives us a list, and we are to follow'. The Madras Services Commission may of course say 'these are the people that are fit to be there'. They ought not to say 'you are to appoint this man or that' according to the order in which they are arranged or something like that. According to the communal Government Order, let them select the people, and let the head of the department appoint them district-war. Even the promotions, it seems, are being interfered with by them. I am extremely sorry that this learned Body gave such power to the Madras Services Commission. At least give them these directions, and let them follow them up. I think our Council should do it.

"Sir, I have nothing more to say except to make one more request. There was a proposal here to extend the working hours of the High Court Judges. Sir, perhaps for all the miscarriage of justice in the lower courts, our highest hope of protection is our High Court. I am glad to say that so far as the personnel at present is concerned, it is most efficiently constituted. Excellent Judges there are to-day and they are giving judgments independently of the Government of Madras. That is what we want. We do not want any Judge in the High Court to look to Government for any assistance. Independently of the Government of Madras they must give judgments and they are doing so. The Law Member may have a hand in appointing the Judge, but after appointing him he must be made completely independent; even that appointment I do not want this Government to make; it must be the Government of India, or the Secretary of State who should do it. Only then High Court will be completely independent. Of course most of them are doing their work peacefully. I admire them. But let us not make their work deteriorate by extending their hours of work. I am of opinion that besides Sunday and Saturday there should be a day in the interval for them, a holiday. Wednesday is better. Sir, imagine the work of a High Court Judge who wants to discharge his duties conscientiously. There are twenty cases posted before him for a day; in working,—of course I am expressing my own views—he has to go through all the files relating to the twenty cases from five o'clock in the evening perhaps till he goes to the Court again at ten the next morning. If he is a conscientious Judge, he goes on looking into all matters, going through all the judgments of the lower Courts, from the lowest court upwards till they come to the High Court; not

only should he master the facts, he should also master the points of law relating to each case. Then he goes to the High Court and sits there. What is his position there? Two learned lawyers try to drag his judgment this side and that side into the whirlpools they are creating; there he has to carefully steer his judgment through. Such is the present position of the Judges. Then, Sir, imagine his concentration; for hours he has to be going on with such work one hour, two hours, three hours, four hours, five hours, and then similarly continuously even for five days. Imagine the state of his mind, Sir. I am sure not one Indian High Court Judge will retire without diabetes; and if he does retire, his end will be very soon. So, I request the hon. the Law Member to see whether he cannot lighten the work of the Judges, so that they may continue without deterioration mentally and physically. Sir, I request the Members of this Council not to press that the Judges should work on Saturdays also. They cannot do so; how can it be possible? You, Sir, hon. Mr. President, are sitting there calmly listening to fifty or sixty people boring you with their speeches. (Laughter.) How can you go on doing it always? The Secretary is sitting there always pointing out the law point; he will have to be active always; what is to be the state of his brain? So, I request, Sir, that this Saturday—the coming Saturday—should be a holiday for us. (Laughter.) I request the hon. the Law Member to see that there is no extension in the hours of work of the High Court Judges. With these few words, I support the motion."

·15 m. * The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Devadasan, referred to some events in his district. He referred to the inconvenience caused to the people by the abolition of a court in his district. I believe that he had in his mind the abolition of one of the two Munsifs' courts situated in the towns of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah respectively. As a matter of fact, one of these courts, the Palamcottah court, has been abolished and has been amalgamated with the Tinnevelly court. This question of abolishing one of the courts was very carefully considered by the District Judge of Tinnevelly and by the High Court and it was as a result of the recommendation made by the High Court and after a careful consideration by the Government, that the Palamcottah Court was abolished. I may also mention here that there was also a memorial from the pleaders concerned. That memorial contained two requests, one was to retain the court as it was and the other was a prayer to the effect that, if for any reason Government thought it necessary to abolish the Palamcottah court, that court might be amalgamated with the Tinnevelly Munsif's court. This alternative prayer was accepted by the Government. I am very sorry if inconvenience has been caused to the people by the abolition of this court, but it was a matter of necessity. In abolishing this court—and my remarks apply equally to the abolition of the other courts in the Presidency as well—both the High Court and the Government have proceeded on the principle that least inconvenience should be caused to the people concerned.

16th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

" Then my hon. Friend, Mr. Devadasan, referred to the disposal of revenue cases by the Subdivisional Officers and he also referred to the increase in the number of insolvency cases. My friend knows very well that it is not possible for the Government to deal with individual cases, but my friend's suggestion will be remembered by me, and if it is possible to do anything in the matter, I shall do so.

" My hon. Friend also referred to the village courts and panchayat courts and stated that justice could not be had particularly in panchayat courts, because there are factions in villages. As a matter of fact, the establishment of these panchayat courts was due mainly to the agitation by the people that the people should be given such powers. I am very sorry that there are factions. Yesterday also, in connexion with some other matter, the same remark was made by another hon. Member and I hope that all attempts will be made by public-spirited gentlemen like my hon. Friend to put an end to the factions in the village courts.

" Then my hon. Friend referred to the disposal of cases in criminal courts. He referred to certain individual cases and said that there were hardships in those cases. I daresay there was a hardship and I am not in a position to contradict my friend. But what can Government do in individual cases like these? It is impossible for Government to interfere. Of course it is for the party concerned who thinks that an injustice has been done to him, to take the case up either in revision or in appeal and to adduce evidence in the court of first instance, so that when cases are taken before an appellate court or before a court of revision, there may be material for the court to dispose of the case in a proper manner and do justice to the person who thinks that an injustice has been done to him. Here again if any way can be found for remedying these alleged acts of injustice, I will certainly do so, but I find it very difficult to give a definite answer here.

" My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, referred to hardship in individual cases of civil disobedience and made an appeal to me to send for records in these cases and revise the sentences. Here again, what I have to tell my hon. Friend is this. Throughout the Presidency, there are a large number of civil disobedience cases. My hon. Friend himself is a lawyer and a distinguished lawyer and he knows that it is impossible for the Government to send for all these cases and to revise them. In the first place, it is impossible for the Government to know what particular punishment has been awarded to any particular accused in particular cases and unless Government is made aware of the existence of any injustice in special instances by petitions by the parties concerned or in other ways, it is impossible for the Government to know all these cases. Then again, the Government of course cannot—and my hon. Friend knows that—issue instructions to the Magistrates concerned to be lenient or severe. That would be absolutely impossible and would be absolutely unconstitutional also. The principle also

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [16th March 1932

is that the executive should not in any way interfere with the judicial powers of any officer under the Government, whether he be a civil judge or a magistrate. But, I can promise this: that if special cases are brought to the notice of Government, the Government will examine such cases and do what it thinks is necessary under the circumstances of the case. If individual cases are brought to the notice of Government, under section 401, Government will look into such cases.

" Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Satyanarayana Chowdari, referred to the fact that some of the Sub-Judges who were acting for a long time before the 15th of August of last year, i.e., 1931, were not confirmed. This was due to the Government Order which was issued in the Finance Department, after consideration by the whole Cabinet. Those Sub-Judges that had acquired a statutory right for confirmation before the 15th of August 1931—and there were three of them—were confirmed, but the others were not confirmed.

" Then, he also referred to the existence of heavy arrears in courts and to the fact that the abolition of courts causes additional hardship to the litigant population. Probably my hon. Friend is thinking of the abolition of the Additional Munsif's Court in Guntur.' (Mr. C Satyanarayana Chowdari: 'Both the Additional Sub-Judge's Court and Additional Munsif's Court at Guntur.') I do not know whether they have been abolished. If they have been already abolished, the question of restoring them will be considered by the High Court at the proper time. If they have not been abolished, I shall bear my hon. Friend's suggestion in mind when the question comes up for consideration.

" My hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, drew attention to a number of points. He referred to the case of an Adi-Dravida who was unjustly convicted. I am very sorry if he was unjustly convicted. As I said already with reference to some point raised by my hon. Friend from Tinnevelly, it is for the particular accused concerned to adduce the necessary evidence in support of his case. If the case is an appealable one the case may be taken up to a court of appeal and if it is one for revision, it may be taken up to the court of revision. As I have stated previously, it is difficult for the Government to enquire into all these cases.

" Then my hon. Friend also stated that no man should be convicted merely on the evidence of a Police officer. The law of evidence lays down certain principles which are binding on all courts and lawyers; and this Government cannot change the law of evidence. It is for the Judge concerned to say whether the evidence that has been adduced, either on the prosecution side or on the defence side, is sufficient for conviction. If the Magistrate concerned is satisfied that the evidence of a particular Police officer is such that it can be acted upon, he will certainly act upon it. If, on the other hand, he thinks that the evidence of that Police officer is insufficient for conviction and cannot be relied upon, it is for him to decide the case accordingly.

16th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

"My hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, also referred to the working hours of the High Court Judges and stated that in the interest of their being able to do justice to the case before them, the number of their working hours should be reduced. I do not know whether my hon. Friend will be able to carry public opinion with him in regard to this matter. As a matter of fact, there was an agitation—I do not hear much of it now—sometime ago that the High Court Judges, who are not ordinarily sitting on Saturdays, must be made to work on Saturdays also. I understand that the Retrenchment Committee —I do not know whether my hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, is a member of that Committee (A voice: 'He is not')—has also made a proposal to this effect, namely, that the vacation of the High Court should be reduced. (Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar: 'That is being done even in England.' This proposal of the Retrenchment Committee is being communicated to the High Court and they have been asked to give their opinion on this matter. I am afraid, therefore, that the suggestion of my hon. Friend that the working hours and the working period of the High Court Judges should be reduced will not find popular support. But I fully agree with him in his statement that our Judges are very efficient and I am very glad that such a statement has been made by my hon. Friend. I am afraid, however, that it will not be possible to reduce their working hours and, in any case, the initiative in such matters as this, should not proceed from the Executive Government but from the hon. Judges of the High Court themselves."

Dr. P. Subbarayan:—"On a point of personal explanation, Mr. President, I want to assure the hon. the Law Member that I never intended that the Government should issue orders to the judiciary that they should be lenient or severe in their sentences. But what I intended was, and I am obliged to the hon. the Law Member when he said the same thing that he should look into particular cases if they are brought to his notice, and I hope people will take advantage of his hint and that they will bring to his notice those cases, because I know there are such cases. I am sure the hon. the Law Member, from the way in which he spoke, will consider those cases favourably."

Mr. M. Devadasan:—"In view of the assurance given by the hon. the Law Member, I beg leave to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Swami A. S. Sahajananda in moving the motion—

'*to reduce the allotment of Rs.* 78,51,000 *for Administration of Justice by Rs.* 100.'

"To discuss the desirability of avoiding undue delay in the disposal of case made following speeech in Tamil:—

"கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே! கோர்ட்டுகளில் கேஸ்கள் உடனுக்குடனே பைசல் செய்வதில்லை. சமீபத்தில ஐகோர்ட்டில் ஒரு தீர்ப்பு கூறினார்கள. வாதியும் பிரதியும் இறந்து நாலைந்து ஆணடுகளான பிறகு கேஸ் முடிவுபெற்றிருக்கிறது. இப்படி இருந்தால் நீதி இலாகாவில் ஜனங்களுக்கு என்ன நன்மையுணடா

[Swami A. S. Sahajananda] [16th March 1932

கும். சிலோன், மலேயா முதலான இடங்களில் ஒரு வாரத்திற்குமேல் கேஸ்களை வைத்திருக்கமாட்டார்கள். இங்கு தலைமுறை கணக்காக நடக்கிறது. கேஸ்கள் யதார்த்தமானாலும் அயதார்த்தமானாலும் கேஸ்களைத் தள்ளிவைத்து தள்ளி வைத்து இப்படி நாலைந்து ஆண்டுகள் கழிக்கிறார்கள். பின்னர் மெதுவாக ஒவ்வொரு சாட்சிக்கும் அவகாசங்கள் கொடுத்து ஆண்டுகள் பல கழிக்கிறார்கள். இதனால் ஜனங்களுக்கு மனஞ்சலித்துப்போகிறது. ஆகையால் உடனுக்குடனே கேஸ்களைப் பைசல் செய்யும்படி அரசாங்கத்தார் கவனிக்கவேண்டும்.

“ சில இடங்களில் பெஞ்சு கோர்ட்டுகளில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களை நியமிக்கவில்லை. சிதம்பரம் பெஞ்சு கோர்ட்டிலும் தற்போது ஆதிதிராவிட அங்கத்தினர் இல்லை. எந்த பெஞ்சு கோர்ட்டிலும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு நியாயம் கிடைக்கும்படி தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் ஒவ்வொரு கோர்ட்டிலும் இருப்பதற்கான நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுக்கவேண்டும்.

“ சில இடங்களில் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டுகள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள்மீது அநியாயமாகத் தங்கள் அதிகாரத்தைச் செலுத்துகிறார்கள். உதாரணமாக சிதம்பரம் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அவர்கள் நலுசை மகத்துவாழ்க்கை ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு என்னை உள்படச்சேர்த்து சி.பி. 144 போட்டுள்ளார். போலீஸார் ரிப்போர்ட்டும், சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அறிக்கையும் ஜில்லா மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் உத்தரவும் அனுகூலமாயிருந்தும் ஜாதியிந்துக்கள் தாங்கள் சிவில் கோர்ட்டில் பார்த்துக்கொள்வதாகவும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் சுவாமியைத் தடுப்பதில்லையென்றும் உறுதிகொடுத்திருந்தும் சிதம்பரம் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் அநியாய வழியில் எங்களைத் தடுத்தார். இவர் தடக்கென வண்டிவைத்துக்கொள்ளவில்லை. அந்நியர் கார்களிலேயே சவாரி செய்கிறார். சிதம்பரத்தில் பிரபலமான லீடிங் வக்கீல் காரை இவர் உபயோகப்படுத்துகிறார். அந்நியர் காரை உபயோகிக்கும் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் எப்படி நியாயம் செய்வார்! இரண்டு தினங்களுக்கு முன்னரும் இவ்விஷயத்தைத் தெரிவித்துள்ளேன். சென்ற ஆகஸ்ட்மாதம் பெண்ணாடம் இராமசாமி பிள்ளையவர்களின் காரை இவர் சவாரி செய்ததால் டி கார் டிரைவர் லைசென்ஸில்லாமல் ஓட்டியதற்காக விருத்தாசலம் சப்-இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் பிராசிகூஷன் செய்தார். உடனே சப-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டை அழைத்து பிராஸிகூஷன் செய்ததை விடுதலை செய்யும்படி தெரிவித்தார்.

“ 1931-ம்வருஷத்து 13-வது காலெண்டர் கேஸில் இவர் செய்தது தவறென ஜட்ஜ் ரிமார்க்கு செய்துள்ளார். கிரிமினல் குற்றவாளியொருவன் கிராம முன்சீபிடம் ஆஜராகவில்லையென சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் தண்டித்தார். சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் விருத்தாசலம் சப்-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் செய்தது தவறென ஜில்லா மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட்டுக்கு எழுதினார். ஜில்லா மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் வார்த்தையை நம்பி குற்றவாளியை விடுதலை செய்து ஜட்ஜ்மெண்டை மாற்ற ஐகோர்ட்டிற்கு எழுதினார். ஐகோர்ட்டார் சப-மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் செய்தது சரி ஜில்லா மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் செய்தது தப்பென ரிமார்க்கு செய்தார்கள். இதற்கு சப்-டிவிஷனல் மாஜிஸ்ட்ரேட் தப்பு ரிப்போர்ட்டே காரணம். இவ்விஷயங்களை கனம் லா மெம்பர் கவனிக்கவேண்டுகிறேன்.

“ சிதம்பரம் வில்லேஜ் முனிசீபுக்கு உதவியளிக்க சிதம்பரம் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டு விஷயமாக இவர் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட முயற்சிகளை ரிக்கார்டு தருவித்து பார்க்கவேண்டுகிறேன். அரசாங்கத்தார் விசாரிக்கவேண்டுகிறேன்.

“ நாட்டில் பலவிடங்களிலும் பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டுகள் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளன. பஞ்சாயத்து கோர்ட்டுகள் ஏற்படுமுன தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் மீது ஜாதி இந்துக்கள் கேஸ் எடுக்க அஞ்சுவார்கள். கேஸ் எடுத்தால் கட்டுசாதம்கட்டிக்கொண்டு பத்து மைல் பதினைந்துமைல்கள் போகவேண்டும். அங்கு வக்கீல் பிடிக்கவேண்டும். பல நாள் அலையவேண்டும். இவற்றிற்கெல்லாம் அஞ்சி கேஸ் கொண்டுபோக மாட்டார்கள். ஆனால் பஞ்சாயத்து கோர்ட்டுகள் கிராமத்திலேயே ஏற்பட்டுவிடவே அது தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்குப் பெரிதும் ஆபத்தான இடமாக முடிந்தது. ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் வேலைக்குப்போகத்தவறினால் உடனே ஏதோ தப்புக்கணக்குகள்வைத்து

16th March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டில் போடுகிறார்கள். அங்கு வாதியோ அல்லது வாதிக்குப் பந்துக்களோ அங்கிருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் உடனே ஆதிதிராவிடனுக்கு விரோதமாகத் தீர்ப்பு கூறுகிறார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு பஞ்சாயத்துக் கோர்ட்டிலும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் அவசியம் இருக்கவேண்டும். பஞ்சாயத்து கோர்ட்டு ஓட்டர்களில் பெரும் பகுதியினர் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களே ஆயினும் எலக்ஷனில் வரவொட்டாமல் சூழ்ச்சி செய்கிறார்கள். சில இடங்களில் எலக்ஷன் நடத்தும் ஆபிஸர்கள் ஒரு தலைபட்சமாக நடந்து ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் எலக்ஷனில் வரவொட்டாமல் சூழ்ச்சி செய்கிறார்கள். இவ்விஷயத்தை கனம் லா மெம்பர் அவர்கள் கவனித்து ஒவ்வொரு கோர்ட்டிலும் இத்தனைபேர் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் கட்டாயமாயிருக்கும்படி செய்ய வேண்டுகிறேன்.

" காப்பீஸ்டர்கள் மாதம் ஒன்று இருபது ரூபாய்கள் வாங்குகிறார்கள். இவர்கள் காலத்திற்கும் அரசாங்கத்திற்கு உழைக்கிறார்கள். சிலாசாசனம், செப்பேடு, ஓலை ரிக்கார்டு, தெரியாத பரிபாஷைகள் முதலானவற்றைச் சிரமப்பட்டு எழுதுகிறார்கள். இவர்கள் எழுதும் ரிக்கார்டுகளை வாங்கும் அட்டெண்டர்களும், பரிசோதிக்கும் ரீடர், எக்சாமினர்களும், சூப்பிரின்டென்டெண்டும் அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களாய் பென்ஷனுக்கு அருகதையுடையவர்களாக அரசாங்கத்தார் கருதும்போது அவர்களுக்குக் காரணக்காரர்களாய் பணம் சமபாதித்துக்கொடுக்கும் காப்பீஸ்டர்களையும் அரசாங்க ஊழியர்களாகக்கருதி அவர்களுக்கும் பென்ஷன் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இவர்கள் முப்பது வருஷம் வரைக்கும் உழைத்து தள்ளாத காலத்தில் கஷ்டப்படும்படி விடலாமா. இவர்கள் ஒவ்வொருவரும் முப்பது ஆண்டுகளுக்குள் சுமார் பதினாயிர ரூபாய்கள் செலவுபோக சமபாதித்துக்கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அவ்வளவும் கொடுக்க வேண்டாம். அவற்றின் வட்டியையேனும் கொடுக்கவேண்டாமா? இவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தார் நடப்பது அநியாயமாயிருக்கிறது. இதற்கு ஹைகோர்ட்டைக் காட்டவேண்டாம். அரசாங்கத்தாரே இவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் நியாயமான உதவி செய்யவேண்டுகிறேன். "

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, Swami Sahajanandham has referred to the constitution of the bench courts which, he said, do not contain many members of the Adi-Dravida community. I may tell him that members of the Adi-Dravida community are being appointed to these honorary posts. In the City of Madras, for instance, there are some Honorary Magistrates and there is even one lady member belonging to that community. With reference to the particular locality referred to by him, I shall bear the remarks of the hon. Member in mind and see whether it is possible to appoint members of the Adi-Dravida community to the Bench Court in Chidambaram.

" My hon. Friend then referred to the Revenue Divisional Officer of Chidambaram. I understood him to say that that officer was in the habit of using the cars of particular individuals and he asked whether it was possible for such a Magistrate to do justice when the gentlemen whose cars he obtained on loan were brought before him as parties. I think that the Magistrate will take care that he does not place himself in such an embarrassing position. Of course, there is no harm in an officer occasionally using the cars of others. There is nothing wrong in that. But, he should not habitually do it.

" My hon. Friend then referred to the constitution of the Judiciary and the absence of the Members of the Adi-Dravida community in it. The appointment of munsifs is in the hands of the High Court and so

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [16th March 1932

far as the Sub-Judges are concerned, no direct recruitment to that grade is made. It is the High Court that recommends the appointment of Sub-Judges from among the ranks of District Munsifs and ordinarily the Government accept their recommendations. If we go to the higher ranks of the Judiciary, namely, the District Judges, my hon. Friend must be aware that there are on the whole 26 District Judges in our Presidency and all these are reserved under the Government of India Act and the orders of the Secretary of State to the Members of the Civil Service except eleven posts. There are specific rules as regards the appointment to these posts. The communal Government Order does not apply to them. The position stands thus. The Government have been impressing upon the High Court the necessity for recruitment to the ranks munsifs, members from the different communities and the High Court have said that consistently with efficiency they will remember this principle and appoint munsifs from different communities.''

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 78,51,000 *for Administration of Justice be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" The point that I raise in my cut motion relates to the representation of the Muslims in the Judiciary generally and also to the question of appointment of competent Muslims to the Madras High Court. The hon. the Law Member is fully aware of the fact that the Muslims are not only not having their due share in the Judiciary but that their representation is practically nil therein. I do not think it necessary, so far as the present Law Member is concerned, to give figures because all the figures are on his fingers' ends. Let me not be understood to say that the question of efficiency should be sacrificed for communal representation. I will be the last man to advocate that principle. At the same time, I do say that in the matter of efficiency the Muslims as a community will stand second to none and if only the Government have a will to give effect to the policy of recognizing the claims of important communities, they will not only recognize the claims of the Muslim community for these appointments without sacrificing efficiency; but will also do credit to the Muslim community as well to themselves. I do not think that the Government or anybody else will complain of lack of efficiency so far as the Muslims are concerned wherever their claims have been recognized. Ever since Sir Abdur Rahim and Mr. Tyabji left the High Court, the question of appointing a Muslim to the High Court has been agitating the minds of the Muslim public and they have been crying hoarse all along; but it has been a cry in the wilderness in spite of the fact that very sweet promises were made to us on the floor of the House, perhaps by the present Law Member and his predecessor. The game in the past has been to play one section or the supposed one section of the community against the other. I do not think that there is any real division in the

16th March 1932] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

community itself so far as this matter is concerned. But I think the previous Law Member was making out a case by creating a division amongst the Muslims by saying that one section of the Muslims wanted a local gentleman to be appointed while the other section did not want it. I may here and now assure the Government that that is not the case and that the Muslims are all entirely agreed that a competent Muslim should be appointed. Whether it be from this Province or from outside is only a secondary consideration. If the Government's case is that they did not appoint a Muslim to the High Court of Madras because all these long years, they have not been able to find a competent Muslim in the Province or outside it, I want them to make that statement definitely. The important political organizations of this community have been for the past so many years agitating this question and it is a matter for surprise that the Government have turned a deaf ear to their demand; and if rumours are to be believed, they are going to ignore the claims of Muslims. I can only say that it is not fair on the part of the Government to go on ignoring the claims of the Muslim community in this matter. The Muslims have a legitimate grievance that their rights have not been fully recognized. I have already said that I am not asking Government to sacrifice efficiency; I go further and say that the Muslims will hold their own against any other community in the matter of efficiency."

MR. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, with regard to this matter I have only to say a very few words as it is really a matter of regret that the Government of Madras has not chosen to give effect to the agitation that has been carried on by the Muslims of this province with regard to the way in which they have been treated in the matter of appointing Muslims to the High Court Bench. As has been pointed out ever since Sir Abdur Rahim ceased to be a Judge of the Madras High Court, or to be more accurate ever since Justice Tyabji ceased to be a Judge of the High Court, for the last twenty years there was no Muslim High Court Judge in Madras even though there were several qualified and capable members in the Muslim community. It is a well-known fact that of late the Muslims have come forward to the front. A fairly large number of them is educated and there are a number of Muslim lawyers both in the City and in the mufassal districts. Such being the case it is but fair that Government should satisfy our demand. If there are not able and competent Muslims then I can understand Government's attitude. But as it is, it is not a matter which can be easily disposed of. I know, apart from the Bar, there are Muslims in the Judiciary itself. There are Muslim District Judges who have had very long experience, and who have served at least in more than one or two districts and thus have bad experience in their work. We know Government have been recruiting in certain cases the Judges of the High Court from the Subordinate Judiciary and especially from District Judges. We know of a recent case when two or more of such Judges have been appointed acting Judges of the High Court. There is the case of Mr. K. P. Lakshmana Rao and there is the case of

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[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [16th March 1932

Mr. Sundaram Chettiyar. These two cases are there before Government, and so Government cannot say now that they cannot appoint Judges of the High Court from among District Judges. There are at present senior Muslim District Judges and so the old plea that they would have to import Muslims from outside, as they did at the time when Sir Abdur Rahim was appointed, cannot be raised. We know as well as Government that Sir Abdur Rahim adorned the High Court Bench, and in fact he was an ornament to the High Court Bench; and so Government cannot say that Muslims cannot make good Judges, and that they cannot make an experiment. We cannot say, considering the class of Judges that we have on the High Court Bench . . . "

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" You are casting reflections on the Bench."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I am sure I am not making any charge. I am only saying that the Muslim Judges who may be appointed will be on a par with the other Judges of the High Court in their efficiency. So, Sir, there are several Muslims as lawyers and there are also some Muslims as District Judges from among whom you can choose one to the Bench. We have often said on the floor of this House that there are many competent people among Muslims to fill the post and the only difficulty is Government won't look at them. Government will certainly, if only they will it, find them as good as anybody else Of course, the rumour is in the air that there are going to be certair temporary vacancies, at any rate, for some months and that Govern ment are likely to fill one of them by appointing a certain Europeai member of the Bar who has, of course, short experience. The gentle man has had, I think, not sufficient experience at the Bar. I als understand that it is not the intention of the Government to appoint the gentleman. For I understand for every vacancy in the High Court Benc this gentleman's name is being proposed and every time it is bein turned down. I suppose if his name comes up again now Governme will not accept it, while there are so many competent men to fill tl post.

" Then the other case is in regard to the question as to who is goi to be the successor of the present Chief Justice of the Court of Sm Causes. I understand that the present incumbent is likely to ret soon. Whether the Government will satisfy the Muslim community merely transferring one already in service to that post or whether th intend to appoint one from among the Bar is yet to be seen. Let th understand that the Muslim community will not be satisfied if tl adopt the former course. For what happens is, by doing so the num of Muslims in Government service is not increased; the number rema stagnant. What we want is that the number should be increased. hope, Sir, the hon. Law Member who is, I am aware of the fact, v sympathetic so far as the Muslim claim in this respect is concerned act independently, because he is in charge of the Law Department

16th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

he need not take any advice or suggestion from any member of my community who sits with him. I want him to act independently. I appeal to him to act independently, because then only he can satisfy the Muslim community and thus do justice in the matter."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, there was a time when Indian Judges were being appointed simply on account of their ability. The question of communal representation on the High Court Benches was not recognized then. It was Muslim agitation that compelled Government to recognize the strength of the Muslim demand, and though then no Mussalman was available in Madras to fill the seat of High Court Judgeship, Sir Abdur Rahim was brought down from Calcutta. And even for the period when he had to be away from Madras on the Public Services Commission, there would have been no harm if a non-Muslim had acted for a short period, still Government was so mindful of Muslim susceptibilities that they brought down Justice Tyabji from Bombay for that period. Since then Government have recognized the principle that all communities should be represented on the High Court Bench. From that time onwards non-Brahman and Christian Judges were appointed not because they were the best or the ablest men available—no doubt they were good Judges—but because they belonged to the non-Brahman or Christian community. I do not mean that these Judges were not able men but it is a fact that there were much abler men than they in the Brahman community. It is an irony of fate that when Government have recognized the necessity of giving communal representation to the different communities in the High Court Bench, the very community to please whom for the first time this principle was introduced should have remained without one of its Members being there for more than a decade. Sir, what does it show? Does it show that Government have changed their attitude towards the Mussalmans? Do they want the Mussalmans to understand that they cannot claim that privilege henceforth even though they may have a poor representation in the services. I hope Government will give their attention to our demand. The whole Muslim community has been agitating on this matter year after year on the floor of this House as well as outside it. Promises were made from time to time that the matter will be considered and yet that question remains unsolved and the Muslim demand remains unfulfilled. Sir, the sincerity of Government is now on its trial. The community's verdict on it depends on the way in which this claim is disposed of by the Government. On this question depends their future attitude towards Government. For a long time the Muslims have been representing that the number of Mussalmans in all branches of Government service is very poor, and they wanted to improve their position in this respect. Now if we are not able to do that let us at least have the satisfaction to retain what we had at one time acquired with respect to the High Court Judgeship. It is an important post and it ranks with the Executive Councillorship. The Government have been putting off this matter too long and the patience of the community is well-nigh exhausted. I hope our demand at least this time will not go unheeded."

[16th March 1932

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. Presi-
t, Sir, my hon. Friends who have spoken previously have detailed fairly good length the necessity for the appointment of a proper islim to the High Court Bench. I was responsible for a cut motion ilar to the one which is being discussed now some years ago and it my duty now to bring back to the memory of the hon. the Law mber the very fair promises that were made not only to the Muslim embers of this hon. House but also to others by the then Law Member. e were told that the matter was under the serious consideration of e Government and that as a matter of fact communications were ready started for the finding out of a proper man for the post. It now half a dozen years since these words were spoken and still am at a loss to see why the Government have not been able to nd a proper man throughout the whole of India. As for the qualifi-ation and capacity of a Muslim to fill up the place in the Bench of the ighest tribunal in the land I need only mention the names of Sir Abdur Rahim, Mr. Badruddin Tyabji and Justice Mamood. And I will ask he hon. the Law Member to deny whether these are not even to-day he leading lights in law for the whole of India. When our community ias produced such brilliant men it is certainly not possible for Govern-nent to expect us to swallow the plain apology that there are not proper nen to be found from among the community. My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, has already pointed out that an excuse was sought for by Government in pointing out that there was a difference of opinion among the Muslims whether to appoint a local Muslim or to bring an outsider into this province. Assurances were given on behalf of all the Muslim Members here that there was no such difference of opinion, that it does not matter at all to the Muslim community of this province whether the Muslim to be appointed to the High Court belonged to this province or brought from outside. And in spite of this assertion made on the floor of this House nothing has been done though as my hon. Friend has pointed out, it is more than a decade since there was a Muslim in the High Court of Madras. As Mr. Yakub Hasan has pointed out, that the Muslim community deserved special representation in the High Court of Madras was in the minds of Government long before the communal agitation was started and long before the reforms. If I may say so after the new reforms the Muhammadan is nowhere. That is the only net result which the Muslim community has got now under the new reforms when responsible Government has been granted. I am aware that the department of Law and Justice is still reserved and yet all the weight and the influence that can be exerted by the trans-ferred half is there. The net result of that is seen in the absolute absence of a Muslim in the High Court Bench for the last ten years and more. One other matter in this connexion that I would like to draw attention to is that the question of the appointment of a Muslim was thought of in this province at a time when there were not many Muslim lawyers and Muslim Judges in this province itself. Now as has already been pointed out there are quite a large number of Muslim lawyers and Muslim officers who are quite capable of filling the post of [illegible] Court Judge with credit. In these days if Government still

16th March 1932] [P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur]

further delay the appointment of a High Court Judge it can only be said that Government do not wish to do justice to the Muslim community.

" In this connexion I would also refer to the paucity of representation of the Muslim community in the other Judicial services in the Presidency. Of course lack of qualified men was the plea that was made years ago. But that plea cannot avail the Government in these days. Certainly there are any number of qualified men from whom Government can pick and choose the best for recruitment to the Judiciary. Again I would ask the hon. the Law Member whether they have tried any Muslims in the Judiciary and found wanting. Is there any one instance, Sir, where the Muslim has failed to prove himself a capable Judge. Among other communities there have been instances of want of capacity. Has there been one I ask against whom it can be said that he was found wanting? When such is the case it is certainly very cruel on the part of the Government not to pay any heed to the longstanding cry of a great community in an important matter like this. I hope and trust that Government at least now when the new reforms have already become old and still more new reforms are to come, at least now, will wake up to the situation and do bare justice to a community which has got a real stake in the country and which has got a great historic past."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" I am not going to inflict anything like a speech. I only want to elicit some information and also place before the Government some facts for their consideration. I understood the hon. the Law Member to say that the appointments of munsifs are made by the High Court. I want to know whether any consideration is given to the question of communal representation in making these appointments. I also want to know why this recruitment has not been given to the Madras Services Commission as in the case of other departments. If you think the efficiency of the service will be interfered with by transferring this power to the Commission I want to know whether by recruitment to other services by the Services Commission the efficiency of the other services has been interfered with. Communal Government Order is not made applicable to this department, I wish to know why it is not made applicable. Is it again the bogey of efficiency that prevents you from doing so? I don't know how communal rotation will affect their efficiency. For when they select a man for any office in the Police department or any other executive department don't they take the best among the men available among a particular community? Efficiency has not in any way been interfered with by such selections. If that could be allowed in other departments why should not the lawyers be recruited on a communal basis for the Judicial department also? The other thing I want to know is whether this communal principle is applied at least in the recruitment of the staff and clerks in the several district courts and munsifs' courts and other judicial courts and if not whether Government propose to do so in the future. There was a practice of recruiting

sub-judges and judges directly from the bar. For the last few years I have not heard of any such thing. I wish to know if the Government will continue this healthy principle as it will help the minority communities also to come in if direct recruitment is made. So I request the Government if they have suspended that practice at least to revive and continue that healthy practice of directly recruiting judges and sub-judges."

* S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I shall be very brief in my remarks. I rise to give my fullest support to the cut motion, moved by my Friend Mr. B. Pocker. While I certainly agree with him that in the matter of selection of High Court Judges, efficiency ought to be the guiding factor, I do maintain that it will not be difficult for the Government to find proper Mussalman gentlemen even within this Province for appointment as High Court Judges. There are as district judges many eminent Muslims who will satisfy any test of Government. I would therefore appeal to Government to appoint a Muslim as a High Court Judge. Let me also state to the hon. the Law Member that if he appoints a Muslim as a High Court Judge he will also be practically solving the question of Hindu-Muslim unity. Muslims will never forget that it is the Hindu Law Member that has helped in the appointment of a Muslim High Court Judge. Such a thing would be to the undying glory of the hon. the Law Member."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—"Mr. President, Sir, if I intervene in this debate at all it is merely to avoid a misunderstanding. When one minority community is urging its claims with so much vehemence silence on the part of the representatives of the other minorities is apt to be considered that they have no grievances to be redressed or that they have no representations to make. I would submit that not merely in the judiciary but in other services as well it is a proper thing to recruit people from all communities fairly and in due proportion. Of course as stated by my Muslim Friends, regard should be had for efficiency. But at the same time I may state that efficiency is being made a bogey of; it is being overdone. Now for the Judicial service I believe that any one with a fairly decent grounding in law provided he has character will prove a very much more efficient and satisfactory judge than one with merely academical qualifications, the highest though they may be. What is the principle on which the appointments of district munsifs are being made by the High Court. They of course require the minimum necessary qualification of a B.L., and also of a minimum period of practice. These are qualifications which every applicant for the job possesses. What is the discriminating factor
15 which induces these judges to prefer some men and reject the rest.
n. I have known several people who have been recruited to the Judicial service and I might confess that several of these people who are being selected cannot be said to be in any way superior to those whose applications have been rejected. I remember particularly one case which was referred to in a correspondence between the High Court and the Government several years ago, wherein the High Court Judge said that a particular candidate had been selected though with inferior qualifications,

as he belonged to a backward (Kalla) community, in spite of another with superior qualifications had only recently before been selected from the same district. I knew the qualifications of both and I know also that there was some difference between the two, but what was that difference and whether that difference would really affect the efficiency of the bench I leave it to the House to judge. Both were B.A., B.Ls. Both had undergone the apprentice course and both had passed the apprentice examination and both had put in several years of practice at the bar. One gentleman supposed to be of superior qualifications had paid Rs. 500 and got himself enrolled as a High Court Vakil while the other gentleman was more prudent and had kept the money in his pocket. That was the difference. Therefore, I submit that this question of efficiency is really being overdone. Among members of the bar who have got the necessary educational qualifications and the necessary training at the bar, if you select any one with character, I am sure he will prove a very efficient judge, at least as efficient as most of the district munsifs and sub-judges we now have, and the amount of work that they turn out, both in quality and quantity, will not by any means suffer if the principle of communal representation be observed also in the judiciary.

" I wish to say just one word about what I said during the general discussion on the Budget, because I fear that I have been somewhat misunderstood. That was about the munsif in my place coming to the court a bit late. I never meant to make a complaint of it at all. Not merely the Law Member has misunderstood me as appeared from his reply, but also outside the House, with the result that the munsifs now come to court at 11 o'clock and go away at 12-30, with the result that the members of the bar are somewhat inconvenienced. I am now in a position to state that these are not the only courts in my district suffering from want of work. There are a few more district munsifs' courts and a few more sub-courts also which have not much work and I am also told that one of the district courts is not suffering from a plethora of work. I know the difficulties of the hon. Law Member in dealing with a matter like this. Owing to financial depression there is bound to be a diminution in litigation and consequently want of work, and it might be that with the return of financial prosperity, there may be a larger amount of work than is now available. But at the same time, I think it is worthy of the consideration of the Law Member as to whether we are not really wasting a lot of money in keeping up these various munsifs' courts and sub-courts and district courts, and whether it would not be possible to reduce them and whether we could not also expect to continue that reduction for a considerable number of years to come. It might be that, say in 15 years, we may have to increase the courts with the future increase of work. But meantime why not try some reduction. We must also take note of this fact that the moment he proposes the abolition of a court anywhere, there is an inevitable deputation of lawyers to bombard him; but may I not state that it is not always that members of the bar are actuated by philanthropic motives in making these representations ? It is after all with them a question of making a living, and lawyers like other men

would like to see things so adjusted as to suit their convenience. I know that even a little transference of work from one court to another sets up a flutter in the bar associations, a meeting is called and a deputation is resolved upon and the poor Law Member or other officer concerned is invaded. As an instance when the abolition of Tiruvarur Sub-Court was suggested, a deputation from Tiruvarur started for Madras, followed almost immediately by a similar deputation from Negapatam. Both of them meet and sit on either side of the Law Member, with the result that the two sub-courts—for both of which there was admittedly not sufficient work—go on flourishing. Matters of this sort are well worth the scrutiny and consideration of the hon. the Law Member."

• The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Sir, I shall reply to the few observations which my Friend Mr. Pannirselvam made with reference to the necessity of retaining all the courts now existing in the Tanjore district first. My Friend was quite right when he said that I was bombarded by deputations from the advocates in different courts in this district when there were proposals for abolition of one or other of the courts. I received all the deputations—I believe politely—and listened to their representations, but I did not take action on the representations of these deputations alone. As I said on a former occasion here, the High Court is the constitutional adviser of the Government in matters like this, and representations and memorials which these different law associations presented to me were forwarded by me to the High Court for favour of their comments. And the High Court considered these things very carefully and forwarded their final proposals to the Government; and it was these proposals that I accepted. In this connexion I may say, Sir, that it is only my Friend Mr. Pannirselvam that has been pleading in this House, or for the matter of that outside it, for the abolition of courts. The cry that I have been hearing from all parts of the Presidency is just the other way. I notice among the cut motions given to-day, one given by my Friend Mr. Khalifullah which is a plea against the abolition of courts. (Hear, hear.) But the Government always decide these questions, in favour of retention or abolition of the courts, only after consulting the High Court. To-day, again my Friend Mr. Satyanarayana Choudari from Guntur was pleading against the abolition of certain courts.

" Then, coming to the motion which was moved by my friend Mr. Pocker, with reference to the representation of the Muhammadan community on the High Court Bench, in particular, and in the other branches of the Judiciary in general, I sympathise with the natural aspirations and ambitions of my Muslim friends in this Council. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: ' Legitimate also.') If I may remind my friends who are in this Council now and who were in the Council before of what I said when I was a non-official Member, I may say that I was one of those that supported this recommendation when a resolution was moved in this House. Further I can say this to my Muslim friends in this Council that the Government will consider the requests

16th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

and representations that have been made. My Friends also, I believe, will remember this, namely, that the power of making appointments on the High Court Bench rests not with the Local Government, not even with the Government of India, but with the Secretary of State.

" Then, with reference to the representations of the Members of the Muslim community regarding other branches of the Judicial department, my Friends will remember that in the Madras City the Chief Presidency Magistrate is a Muslim, that the Chief Judge of the Small Causes Court is a Muslim. Then going to the other ranks, there are, as I said before in connexion with another motion, only 11 listed posts in the District Judge's ranks open to gentlemen who are not Members of the Indian Civil Service. And of this, the Secretary of State has allotted six to the Provincial Civil Service and five to the Members of the bar; and of these five, two are Members of the Muslim community. I refer to this fact only for the purpose of showing that the claims of the Muslim community are not forgotten. Then going lower down, as I said, the appointment of munsifs is under the Madras Civil Courts Act of 1873, vested in the High Court. I may however tell my Friends that from time to time the Government have been communicating to the High Court the discussions in this Council and telling the Hon'ble Judges that communal justice should as far as possible be done; and the High Court has said that they will certainly remember these communal considerations—consistently with efficiency—in making these appointments. So far as the ranks of Sub-Judges are concerned, there is no direct recruitment. As I said a few minutes ago in connexion with another motion, the High Court makes recommendations for the appointment of Sub-Judges from among the ranks of District Munsifs and the Government generally accept those recommendations. I hope the hon. Member will withdraw his motion."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" May I request the hon. the Law Member to forward our representation about the High Court to the Secretary of State, so that in the next appointment the Secretary of State may be influenced by our representation?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether the hon. the Law Member is satisfied that the Muslim Community has adequate representation by the High Court appointing only two out of 30 munsifs from that community? Then, besides that, may I ask whether it is not the Governor in Council that recommends names for the appointment of High Court Judges whenever vacancies occur? Of course the hon. Law Member is right in saying that the appointment is finally made by the Secretary of State, but does the Governor in Council not play any part in filling up the vacancies? If that is so, may I ask the hon. Law Member to influence the Governor in Council to send in names of suitable Muslims for the next vacancies that are sure to arise in the near future?"

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I have 4 stated already that all the representations made in this House will be remembered."

[16th March 1932

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XII for a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,51,000 was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS—RESERVED

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

> ' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 21,46,500 *under Demand No. XIII—Jails—Reserved* '."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" I beg to move—

> ' *that the allotment of Rs.* 21,46,500 *under Demand No. XIII be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, the object of this cut motion is to discuss the reformation of jails.

" Sir, year after year, hon. Members of this House have brought to the notice of Government that there is a great necessity to revise the Jail Manual in order to liberalize the way in which the jails are administered in our Province. I say at the outset that the Government have not paid any heed to the demands made by non-official Members of this House with regard to this very vital subject under their administration. I recollect that last year, when the Budget discussion was going on, when we were considering the question of the demand under jails and when the hon. the Law Member was asked to appoint a non-official committee, he promised that he would appoint a committee of non-officials to go into the question of revising the rules with regard to the administration of jails. I am not aware of the reasons for the hon. Member not fulfilling that promise he made on the floor of this House. Year after year the demand for the reform of jail rules is becoming greater and greater, whereas the administration of jails is becoming worse and worse. We find that the need for the reformation of jail rules is becoming greater and greater, especially when we look at the way in which the political prisoners are being treated. We know that not only in the Penitentiary there is a need for a good deal of reforms but there is also a need for reform in the Vellore jail where lady prisoners are put to a good deal of inconvenience not only with regard to the time at which food is given to them during the course of the day but also with regard to the way in which certain necessaries of every day life for women generally are not given to them. So far as the time when the food is given to lady prisoners is concerned in the Vellore jail, I have a complaint to make. The morning meal is given to them at about 12 or 12-30 and they are expected to be ready for the second meal or evening meal as it is called at about 3 or 3-30 p.m. I wonder how it would be possible for a person to take two meals within so short a time as two hours. I do not know with what purpose this is being done. and whether there is any policy underlying this method. Again, Sir, they are denied the supply of coconut oil for oiling their hair. I do not know if the hon. the Law Member knows about this. I believe it has been brought to his notice once or twice this year and I do not

16th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

know if he has already got the information from the Vellore jail. I heard very many people complaining about this. The other difficulty which these ladies experience there is this: that most of them who are in B class and A class are accustomed to take raw rice, whereas the rice that is supplied to them is boiled rice and it is very difficult for them to take it. I know the hon. the Law Member will come forward and say what he could do for this inasmuch as it is the Presiding Magistrate that sentences these prisoners that ought to prescribe the class and the kind of diet which each prisoner ought to get under the jail rules. Even in such cases where any mention is not made by the Presiding Magistrate who passes the sentence, I do not know what prevents the Jail Superintendent from acceeding to the request of the prisoners with regard to the kind of rice that should be supplied to them. After all, raw rice is not much more costly and it can be purchased practically at the same price as boiled rice. If the hon. the Law Member enquires into the matter, he will find that the lady prisoners in Vellore jail are undergoing very great hardships with regard to this matter.

"Then, Sir, they are not allowed to remain outside their cell for sufficiently long time. They are sent to their cells very much earlier than the prescribed hours under the Jail Manual.

"Then with regard to under-trial prisoners, I find that recently all of them have been put in the C class. It is the Magistrate that prescribes the class into which each prisoner should be put, but if he does not do so, I believe all of them are put into C class and they are put to great hardship. I do not know whether it is the policy of the Government to put, especially these civil resisters, into C class in order that they might apologise, on account of the unbearable sufferings which they undergo. I have no doubt whatsoever that a very large number of prisoners who have apologised and come out from the jails are from among those who have been put into C class and have been treated in a very cruel manner.

"With regard to the question of diet, I wish once again to point out that there ought not to be any discrimination made between one race and another race and one class of prisoners and another class. I do not know why even to this day the Jail Manual should contain rules with regard to the discriminatory treatment meted out to prisoners belonging to different races and classes. I ask why a European prisoner should get a different treatment even in jails from the treatment that is meted out to an Indian prisoner. Of course there was a time when the governing race was regarded as superior by even the Indian Civil Service. Unfortunately this is certainly not the time when one community or race considers itself as superior to another and members of the European community too would not like such a differential treatment. They will certainly not be a party to such a differential treatment. I therefore urge that it is high time that changes are introduced with regard to the way in which the jails are administered in this Province.

"Sir, I believe that the single cells that are given to C class prisoners are very, very small. I am told they are given a small tin

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [16th March 1932

vessel in which water is given to them. The night within the prison is not the same duration of time as it is outside, because the daytime to them is very small and the night very long inasmuch as the night-time begins very early in the evening and ends in the morning sometimes at 7 or 7-30 a.m. Therefore the night-time is very long and the quantity of water that is given to them to be used during that period is very very insufficient to them. The worst part of it is that the water that is given to them is required to be used both for drinking and other purposes during these long hours. Is this really a civilized method of treating the prisoners?

"Then, the place in which they live is not at all clean. It is a small place and there are a lot of bugs and mosquitoes there. It is no wonder that some of the young men who go to jails and are put into C class, when they come out, return with some sort of illness to which they succumb.

"These are some of the hardships to which the prisoners, especially the political prisoners, are put to in jails.

"Then, Sir, there is another matter which I want to touch upon. In this Province there is a system under which certain persons appointed by the Government to visit these jails now and again. I am afraid that this system has not been working satisfactorily. The hon. the Law Member in making a selection of visitors to jails would do well if he would kindly select these people from among those who have had experience of jail life, so that they might be in a position to know exactly whether there is any need for change in the Jail Rules. They will certainly know what is the reformation that has to be brought in in the administration of jails. What is the use of having a list of visitors consisting of gentlemen who have had absolutely no experience of hardship or difficulty felt in jails, or of gentlemen in very affluent circumstances who do not know what proverty is. I am sure it will be very difficult for the latter class of people to realize what exactly the trouble or hardship that is experienced by those people who are in jails. I do hope therefore that the hon. the Law Member will favourably consider this suggestion, viz., of having for every jail at least a small number of honourable and worthy gentlemen who have worked hard for the country and who have had experience of jail life. There are very many people, especially after the National Movement, people belonging to very high class, and it will not be difficult for the hon. the Law Member to find such gentlemen coming forward to become visitors of jails.

"It is only then the real purpose of jail visitors will be served. Recently there was a conference of Jail Visitors both gentlemen and ladies, where they passed certain resolutions recommending certain changes in the Jail Manual. The resolutions were forwarded to the hon. the Law Member and I am sure he will pay his best attention to the subject and make the necessary reforms."

* **Capt. W. E. Winter**:—"Mr. President, as this is the first time I address the House, I crave the usual indulgence on the part of hon. Members to one who is in a most unenvious position.

" The subject which I wish to bring into evidence is the effect of the increasing extension of the jail manufactures in direct competition with public enterprise. Now, Sir, as an example of the cost of the machinery which has been established in these central prisons, let me take the Coimbatore Jail. I understand that no less than Rs. 6,00,000 have been spent on putting up machinery and buildings in that jail. Rs. 6,00,000 is no small sum and six lakhs spent on a mere paltry 150 looms and 3,500 spindles is not in my opinion, to be allowed to pass unnoticed. The fact is that in our Mill at Coimbatore we have 72,000 spindles and 500 looms and the capital for that Mill is Rs. 12,00,000. You will see the difference in expenditure on looms and spindles and buildings in the Coimbatore Jail. The excessive cost of the machinery is very apparent. In going through the report of the Inspector-General of Prisons for 1929 I find that he speaks of further batches of spindles to be placed in other jails for the purpose of spinning wollen twists. These wollen twists are to be woven into blankets. I find that there are no less than six manufactured articles which are in direct competition with those of private traders and industrialists. For instance we have the manufacture of cotton goods; we have cumblis; we find they are also indulging in boot-making. They are also making locks. They also make various cotton and wollen twists. We find now they are putting up a carpentry factory. So they go on *ad libitum* indulging in a vast expansion of machinery which distinctly and directly come into competition with public enterprise. The hon. Member will bear with me when I say this: in answer to a question the other morning he denied that the jails were allowing public notices and selling goods to the public. May I, Sir, with due respect to the hon. Member, suggest that that was not quite accurate? For instance if I go to Ootacamund I can go to a certain shop and ask for a price list of jail-made goods and I can buy them. I can go to the jail or send my servant or coolie or man or woman or boy or girl to the jail and I can buy anything made in the jail. Yet we are told in this House that there is no competition with outsiders. We are also informed that there is no competition with private enterprise. May I just draw your attention to a passage in the Inspector-General's Report for 1930, where he states clearly that his 'goods have improved in every way and that he expects large orders from *outsiders* and from *overseas?*' I presume, if the jails are to receive orders from outsiders, and from overseas, there must have been some agency going in for regular propaganda with the intention of securing orders for the jail manufactures. I admit in the beginning we, industrialists, were rather lenient towards our friends as we thought perhaps it was a small mustard seed. But unfortunately the mustard seed is becoming the proverbial tree and this tree is spreading out its branches; it is enveloping a great many of the small traders and industrialists around the countryside. You say, where? Let us go now to Tiruppur. There were several small carpet manufacturers. I say these carpet manufacturers have not been able to continue their avocations—surely a very commendable one—because the Government have allowed carpet to be made in jails and supplied to the departments. If the Government is such a benign Government as it supposes

[Capt. W. E. Winter] [16th March 1932

itself to be and is careful of the interests of the people, of the interests of the poor labourer and the poor small man, I ask, why does Government with its ample means come in direct competition with the small men and crush them? I ask, Sir, why a system, which has at its command ample powers and ample means should not render aid to the outsider, should not give these means to the multitude of small men so that these small manufacturers who have to earn their living should be enabled to progress in their business? And then taxes would be paid and industries would flourish and the small man would be able to have his own factory. I am sure there would be enough manufacturers to supply the Government with all these various articles if Government would only help the small man. I ask what it means, when we read in this pamphlet 'Regulation of Jail Labour and Jail Manufactures in British India.' I believe it is a Government of India Order of 1886 and again 1912."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"1886!"

Capt. W. E. WINTER:—"And 1912, Sir. It says here that the Executive Government consider that 'jail factories should not be converted into steam factories.' I ask then, why is there a steam factory at the Central Jail, Coimbatore? Why is there a special mechanic and engine driver employed to look after the steam engines? I further read here, 'The use of steam machinery in jails will not in future be absolutely prohibited.' We admit that. But it goes on to say, 'but care should be taken, that limits are set to its employment in individual places or where there is strong reason to believe that it enables jails to compete injuriously with private capitalists in the neighbourhood.' I am informed that this policy has not been altered. Now, Sir, the facts I have mentioned and the illustration I have given of the Coimbatore jail show that there is in certain of these jails a steam factory. Here we have a statement made that these jails 'should not enter into competition with industrialists in the neighbourhood to their detriment.' I say, Sir, that these various machinery erected in jails are turning out goods in direct contravention of the statement made here. Let me as an illustration again refer to the making of khaki cloth in the Coimbatore Jail. There has been set up a khaki dyeing machine at a cost of Rs. 1,10,000. This khaki cloth is sent to the various Government departments, I admit. I understand that firms in this city have in the past complained to the Government of this interference in their trade and have asked that this interference should not continue. I ask further: is it their policy to continue to spend increasingly in the direction of putting up further machines, further buildings and so on? Let us turn to the turnover. I read in the report here written by the Inspector-General of Prisons that the turnover of manufactures during the year was Rs. 12,00,000. If this had been distributed among the number of small manufacturers, and if their needs had been taken into account—if the Rs. 12,00,000 had been spent outside—look what benefit it would have been to the poor man, to the small man and to the industrialist. I put the mill owners also in this class."

16th March 1932]

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" May I interrupt the hon. Gentleman? May I ask whether the price of jail manufactures is the same or a bit higher than the price of private industrialists? "

Capt. W. E. WINTER :—" In answer to Sir Patro, I may say they are mainly cheaper than the goods of our mills. Therefore it is competition.

" Let me continue, Sir. If the jails are to continue making these manufactures, where shall we end? The money locked up is excessive and what is the returu the Government is getting from this expenditure. I have now proved competition and let me go to the other matter, the return the Government is getting from the sums invested in this direction. I understand the loss on the working of the weaving department—I think I am right here—the loss last year on the weaving department was Rs. 44,000. This is an instance of Government enterprise, Government commercial undertakings. May I take another illustration—the Cinchona plantations in the Anamalais? I was up there the other day; Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar was there also some time ago. He called it a white elephant. I should call it a whited sepulchre. An elephant has some life whereas a whited sepulchre has no life in it. It is dead and full of dead wood. The money spent on the estate is expenssive! What is the return the Government gets on its Quinine Factory? A mere half per cent on the Rs. 24,00,000 invested on quinine making. Of course the hon. Member will say: we are trying to alleviate the suffering of the poor, we are trying to check the spread of malaria and so on. I ask the question, Sir, —perhaps I am not on right lines, but I ask your indulgence—why not spend this money on anti-malarial measures and see that the conditions which cause the mosquito are cleared off? Then the money will be spent in a much better way and it will be more to the point.

" Coming back to the question of labour, our friends say to us: if we are to stop all these things what are we to do with the labour, with the convict labour? I turn them to the proceedings of the Legislative Council of 1929—I have not got the exact reference here—in which there is a statement that labour was not plentiful on the cinchona plantation and therefore they had to do some of the planting in the dry season. I ask: why cannot these convict labourers be used on the Anamalais in their cinchona plantations? They can work as labourers under control. I ask why not? In this very paper here which I hold in my hand there is raised the question of giving convicts 'outdoor fresh air.' I recommend to the hon. Member that he will be pleased to consider this question of employing this labour in the estates on the Anamalais or Ootacamund which he has under his control. Then you say: what about other labour? I noticed already that you have obtained Rs. 40,000 from garden produce. That is a very nice compliment to Major Upshon, the chief gardener.

" We have now a chief gardener in a most creditable position; he 5
is bringing in distinct revenue to the Government, but how is this used? Look at the price of labour utilized in the manufactures! Two and a half annas is, I believe, the price of food that a convict gets.

[Capt. W. E. Winter] [16th March 1932

In view of the fact the valnes of food commodities have fallen down. I understand that the cost of food supplied to a convict is about one and a half annas. Add to that, the credit the Government gets—Rs. 40,000. It must cost them nothing. Forced labour is working in these machines and others cannot turn out these articles in a more efficient way and in so cheap a manner. I come to the point of asking the hon. Member if he would curtail any further expenditure in this direction, even though he cannot do away with the manufacture in jails. Now the subject is opened up in this House, and if no notice be taken, we shall have to bring this matter to the notice of the public and again of the Government.

"These jails have no impediments in many ways; they have no Factories Act applied to them; some of our friends in this House are very keen on the Factories' Act being applied to all factories. But there is no Factories Act for the jail people. No Workmen's Compensation Act for the jails. You find that all the commercial undertakings of the Government are free from the bondage into which they put the outside industrialist and the small trader. I ask, 'is that fair?' I ask, 'is that righteous?' I fear it is not. I fear we have reached the stage when we should raise our voice in protest.

"*I am giving an illustration. I presume most of our friends here are familiar with the story of the camel and the tent-owner.* The tent was occupied by a man who owned a camel and the camel came to the tent and put its head in and the man in the tent patted it; next time the camel came and put its neck and he patted it; very shortly he found to his amazement that it intruded the whole of its body. Thus, he was ejected by the camel. I admit that the Government have not yet ejected the industrialists, by having complete State control over all industries. But, I feel that we, industrialists, would be very foolish if we patted the Government any longer! The Government were allowed to carry on manufacturing small articles in their jails for the time being; we were not afraid of that. But instead of arresting it, their expansion is so great that instead of being small industrialists in the jails, we find they are introducing their whole body. If the hon. the Law Member will take up the question and go into it, we shall be extremely thankful. With these few remarks, I request the hon. the Law Member to allow a Committee to be formed to investigate matters and to see whether there cannot be any cessation or at least curtailment of their commercial undertakings and that fresh fields are opened for fresh labour which will not be in direct competition with small traders or industrial concerns."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 17th March 1932

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Krishnaswami Ayyar, *Kt.*, Diwan Bahadur Sir Alladi.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahbooh Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Namhiyar, Mr. V. P.
Narayanaswami Pillai, Rao Bahadur T. M.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed *Tajuddin* Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Chemudu, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Control of Vehicles

Appointment of bus inspectors.

* 1035 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) in which districts bus inspectors have not so far been appointed and for what reasons; and

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to reduce the pay of these officers and provide for any incremental scale?

A.—(*a*) Bus inspectors have not been appointed in the districts of Anantapur, Kurnool, Cuddapah and Guntur, because the number of buses for inspection does not justify the appointment of full-time officers and also because of financial stringency.

(*b*) The question is under the consideration of Government.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know who does the work of brake supervision in those four districts? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Superintendent of Police."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Superintendent of Police is qualified for doing this work? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" He has the qualifications."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know the qualifications prescribed for the bus inspectors? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" They know the technique of the whole thing."

17th March 1932]

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know in view of the fact that a large number of mechanical engineers who have passed out of the Engineering College have been thrown out of employment, on account of retrenchment, whether these unqualified inspectors cannot be replaced by the mechanical engineers? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " The whole question is under the consideration of Government as to what qualifications should be prescribed, etc., and when the time comes, this suggestion also will be considered."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know how long the Government will consider this question, in view of the fact that this question has been under consideration for the last five or six years? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " No; but the work is being carried on quite efficiently by the present staff and there is nothing lost in delay."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Then, may I know what is exactly under the consideration of Government? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " The question of prescribing the qualifications and also of fixing the salaries of these people."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know why the Government are having it under consideration when the present people are now carrying on the work quite alright? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Because there is a report of the committee before the Government of India now; and they have not yet passed orders on it. As soon as they pass orders, the qualifications and salaries will be settled."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know if the Government are aware that the bus owners have to go to distant out-of-the-way stations where the bus inspectors are camping? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have no information."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know if the reduction of salary is to be only 10 per cent, or whether a larger cut will be made? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " We have not yet come to a decision on that point."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Is the Government aware that it is really dangerous to have unqualified persons appointed as bus inspectors? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " They are not unqualified. They know the work they are doing."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" What is the qualification they possess?"

[17th March 1932

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I have answered it."

Depressed Classes

Surrender of the allotment for scholarships to the depressed classes.

* 1036 *Q.*—Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that only a portion of the sanctioned amount of scholarships to depressed classes is to be spent in 1931–32 surrendering the balance to the Government;

(*b*) if the answer to clause (*a*) be in the affirmative, what the amount is to be surrendered; and

(*c*) what the number of Labour schools closed from 1st July 1931 to date is and the cause for such closures in the various districts?

A.—(*a*) Yes, so far as the Education Department grant is concerned. No reduction has been made on this item from the Labour Department grant.

(*b*) Rs. 7,100.

(*c*) A statement [a] is appended.

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"Will the Government say if they have received any memorials from the people praying for the retention of the schools closed?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"We have received the memorials; but we are not able to take action on them owing to financial stringency."

Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"With regard to the answer to clause (*b*), I find that Rs. 7,100 is to be surrendered. May I know if the Government have stopped stipends to some students?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I think so, to a certain extent."

Prisons and Prisoners

Alleged restraint on lady convicts from wearing 'kumkum' and bangles.

* 1037 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the lady convicts, convicted for political offences are not allowed to wear '*kunkum*' and the glass bangles—the sacred symbols of every lady having her husband—and are forced to appear as widows in the Vellore Central Jail;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that as soon as 'C' class lady prisoners enter the jail, their glass bangles are forcibly broken, an act which is done only on the death of the husband;

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 468 infra.

[7th March 1932]

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the hon. the Law Member has received representations from Mr. Ramadas Pantulu regarding the same; if so, what action has been taken on the same; and

(*d*) under what provision of law are kumkum and glass bangles tabooed in jails?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) The Government have called for a report from the Inspector-General in the matter.

(*c*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether the hon. Member does not consider that conduct such as this is highly revolting and insulting to the sentiments of the people?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I do not think so."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know under what powers such things are perpetrated?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My friend will find from the answer that I have called for a report and I said that after receiving the report, I would give further information."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the Government will issue immediate instructions to the jail officials concerned to stop this practice?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I will wait for issuing instructions till I receive the report."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Irrespective of the fact whether the wearing of kumkum or the breaking of bangles took place or not, will the Government be pleased to issue an order immediately prohibiting the breaking of bangles and wearing of kumkum taking into consideration the sentiments of the Hindu population?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"As far as I am aware, the wearing of bangles by ladies is not regarded as having any religious significance. Probably, there is some peculiar custom in that part of the country from which my friend, Mr. Bhatt, comes. I know personally that the glass bangles are worn, not only by married women, but even by unmarried girls; the glass bangles are so brittle that often they are broken and replaced often, so far as my knowledge goes."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask if there is anything in the Jail Code permitting the breaking of the bangles by the Jail authorities? I am not saying whether the thing has taken place or not; I am merely asking for information whether the present rules make it obligatory on the part of the Jail officials?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" There is nothing in the rules either way so far as I am aware."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" If that is so, may I ask the hon. the Law Member to issue instructions, considering the sentiment that is attached to the glass bangles, that they should not be broken by the Jail officials? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" As I told my friends in this House, it is not a religious matter; and I shall consider the desirability of issuing instructions on receipt of the report that has been called for in this connexion."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" The hon. the Law Member said that the wearing of bangles is not considered to be sacred. Does he not seem to realize that having worn once, for them to be broken by an outsider is considered to be most objectionable by the Hindus? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not admit that there has been any breaking by outsiders; that is the reason why I said I would wait for the report."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" In view of the fact that even among the Muhammadans, glass bangles on the person of the ladies is broken intentionally only on the death of the husband, may I know whether the hon. the Law Member will issue instructions immediately to prevent women being treated as widows during the lifetime of their husbands ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" As I repeated more than once this morning on the floor of the House, I shall not think of issuing any instructions till I receive the report I have called for; because it is not considered generally in the country as a symbol of marriage."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know what exactly is the reason for not getting the information at once from such a place as Vellore, so close to Madras, when the question was given notice of on the 7th of this month and a report could have been got within two or three days? Why did not the hon. the Law Member take steps early, to see that the answers are given to the Members when the Council session is going on? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The question was received in my office on the 9th, and immediately, instructions were issued to the Inspector-General. My friend from his long experience of this Council ought to know that the Government do not ordinarily correspond directly with the subordinate officials, but only with the heads of departments."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the hon. the Law Member is not aware that among the Tamils, at any rate, the wearing of glass bangles is not permitted in the case of ladies who have lost their husbands? "

17th March 1932]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" It is permitted, as I said, even in the case of children; so it is not a symbol of marriage."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" But what about ladies who have lost their husbands? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" As for that, persons who have lost their husbands do not wear any ornament, whether glass bangles or otherwise."

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—" May I know if the hon. the Law Member considers that the Inspector-General of Prisons is an expert in knowing the customs and sentiments of the people of this country? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No, I do not."

Dr. P. Subbarayan:—" May I ask the hon. Gentleman, the Law Member, in view of the fact that at least in a particular community on the West Coast, the Saraswath community, there is this sentiment attached to the wearing of bangles, whether he does not think it necessary to check the Prison authorities in this respect, even though it is not specifically said anywhere that this should not be done? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" I shall certainly consider the suggestion of my friend, however, I may say that, so far as I am aware there are few Saraswath prisoners here."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Is there anything in the Jail Rules which prevent the retention of these bangles by the convicts? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" As I replied to my friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, the Jail Rules are silent on this point."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" Sir, with regard to clause (c) it is said that no representations were received from Mr. Ramdas Pantulu. May I know whether any representations from any other persons have been received? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No."

Mr. Yakub Hasan:—" May I know if the bangles are removed, whether they are removed or broken because prisoners should not be allowed to keep with them any sharp instrnments or anything with which they can commit suicide? These being glass bangles, perhaps on that account it is quite possible that they might have been removed. If there is really no harm in the ladies wearing kunkum and retaining their bangles, will the Law Member be pleased to issue instructions that they may be done? "

[17th March 1932

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I shall certainly consider my friend's very valuable suggestion."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" Is it a fact that among the Hindus, the wearing of kunkum and bangles, either gold or glass, is considered to be the chief symbols of a *sumangali* or a married woman?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No, Sir; it is only the wearing of the *thali* that is considered the chief symbol."

Medical Administration

Alleged unrest in the School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

* 1038 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was a fracas between the students of Siddha section and the students of the Ayurvedic section of the Indian School of Medicine at Madras on 17th February 1932; if so, what were the events that led up to the same;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Siddha students were armed with dangerous weapons and if so, with what weapons;

(*c*) whether any Ayurvedic students were injured, if so, what their number and the nature of their injuries were;

(*d*) whether there was any enquiry held either by the Government or by the educational authorities into the same and what the result of the same is; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the Siddha students were set up by one of the lecturers to pick up a quarrel with the Ayurvedic students?

A.—(*a*) to (*e*) The Principal, Indian Medical School, has submitted a report after enquiry and it is under the consideration of Government. He has promised a further report in the matter and it is awaited.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know whether the hon. the Chief Minister would place on the table any report that he may have received?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Yes, Sir; but after the receipt of the further report, the Government will consider whether it should be placed on the table."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Is it not after all a domestic quarrel between some students that has been made into a big question by a few people?"

17th March 1932]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Yes, Sir; before we even received the report from the Principal, the matter does not seem to have required so much publicity; it is purely a small quarrel and we should treat it like that."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" If the report has not yet been received, I do not know how the Minister says that it is not so important? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" A report has already been received; but I said a further report has been promised."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" If the report has been received, and it contains a complete account of what actually happened, where is the necessity for a further report? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The report gives only certain facts, and the Principal says he is enquiring further."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" Is it a fact that the Siddha students are subjected to great humiliation and mental torture by some of the authorities? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The facts as 11-
stated, are not true, and I do not think it is proper to make allega- a.m.
tions of that sort. I may assure my hon. Friend that there is no difference of treatment as between the Siddha and the Ayurvedic students."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the hon. Minister whether in the hostel attached to the school, out of 100 students, there are 98 students belonging to the Ayurveda section and only 2 Siddha students? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" There is no objection to the Siddha students joining the hostel of their own. One such hostel can be opened only when there are 16 students and in this case because there is not a sufficient number they are asked to join the Telugu mess."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" It is not a question of Telugus or Tamils here. What I want to know is whether the Siddha section consists of all people, Telugus, Tamils, Mussalmans, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans, and only two of them are in the hostel? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is not a fact that the Siddha students belonging to whatever community they may be, are not allowed seats, but students belonging to the Siddha section and other students are all allowed equal privileges. I have had no complaint from any student for not being allowed the privilege of joining the hostel."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" Is it a fact that in all the associations of the school only Ayurveda students are holding offices and there is not even a single Siddha student? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" These allegations against Telugus and Tamils are really inappropriate and I wish to appeal to my hon. Friend not to make any such allegations. I can only assure the hon. Member that there is no such difference at all between Andhra students and Tamil students."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" It is not a question of Andhras or Tamils. The Siddha section consists of Tamils, Telugus and Muslims. May I know, Sir, whether Government knows that I was one of those various Legislative Council Members like Messrs. V. T. Arasu, Abdul Hameed Khan, Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Manikkavelu Nayakar, who went there to see that peace is brought about in the school as soon as possible, but yet the memorandum is in the press and questions have appeared? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" The hon. Member is making a speech."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order."

Admission of two Congress volunteers as in-patients into the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore.

* 1039 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) with reference to the answer to question No. 951 whether the detailed report called for has been received; and

(*b*) whether the hon. the Minister will be pleased to place a copy of the same as well as the accident register on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know, Sir, whether the report has since been received? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Yes, Sir. The Surgeon-General has reported on the matter. With regard to clause (*a*), he says that ' two Congress volunteers were admitted into the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, on the 3rd and three on the 10th February 1932.'

" With regard to clause (*b*), he states ' Anti-tetanic serum injection was given to one of them on the 10th February 1932. It was given as a preventive against the possible development of tetanus later on as is usually done for abrasions with road dust on them.'

" With regard to clause (*c*), he says ' The injuries were noted in the Accident Register.'

" With regard to clause (*d*), he says: ' It is reported by the Superintendent, Government Headquarters Hospital, Mangalore, that the injuries on the volunteers were not of a serious nature and that their condition on admission into the hospital was not bad. The two volunteers admitted on 3rd February 1932 were discharged on 7th February 1932. Of the three admitted on the 10th February 1932, two were discharged on 13th February 1932 and one on 14th February 1932.' "

17th March 1932]

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to place copies of the accident register on the table of the House, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"According to the Civil Medical Code, accident registers are confidential extracts from which can be given only on application by a Police officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police. So, I am sorry that it is not possible for me to comply with the hon. Member's request."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, whether it is not a fact that the accident register in this case shows that countless and innumerable injuries have been inflicted on the person of these volunteers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I have given the information received by me from the Surgeon-General."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, whether the hon. the Chief Minister considers that these accident registers are confidential even to this House?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Yes, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that even according to the report of the Surgeon-General some of the volunteers who were admitted into the hospital on the 3rd of last month were released, some on the 7th and some on the 13th and some on the 14th, does the hon. Minister think that the injuries were simple and that they were not bad?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"It is a matter of opinion. The Superintendent of the hospital considers that the injuries were not serious."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Then, why were they kept for such a long time if the injury was not serious?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"That is a matter for the patient. Probably the patient preferred to stay in the hospital rather than go home."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister has got the extract from the accident register in his possession now?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The Surgeon-General sent a copy of the extract from the accident register."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Will the hon. Minister kindly read it out to the House?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I cannot do it."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"May I know, Sir, the section of the Civil Medical Code that prohibits the publication of this information?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" That is paragraph 769 of the Civil Medical Code, which says 'accident register is a confidential record; extracts will only be furnished on application made by a Police officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police '."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Does this rule apply to this House also? "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" If it is a confidential thing, may I know how it has been sent to the hon. the Chief Minister? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAIDU :—" It is sent to the Government as a confidential document."

Agriculture

Agricultural Middle School, Taliparamba.

* 1040 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the Government have come to any decision regarding the future of the Agricultural Middle School at Taliparamba?

A.—Yes. It has been decided to close the school on the termination of the current session.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government have ever considered the question of instituting any short courses for practical farmers in this school? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" The Government will consider the question of introducing a short course when funds are available."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I know the strength of the school which is proposed to be closed and what facilities Government propose to give to such of the students that desire to continue their studies? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" The strength of the school is about 9 or 10."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether the proposal is to close the school temporarily and to open it again? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" The proposal now is to close it. But, if there is a demand for it, probably the question of re-opening the school will be considered."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Is it as a measure of retrenchment or as a policy of not continuing it that this school is being closed? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" In the first place there is no demand. In the second place, the Retrenchment Committee also thought that as the attendance in the school was not more than three or four, it would be better to close it."

17th March 1932]

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have come to the conclusion that there is no demand for agricultural middle schools in this Province? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Yes, Sir."

Veterinary

Veterinary dispensaries at Udipi.

* 1041 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to close down the veterinary dispensaries at Udipi and Puttur in South Kanara;

(*b*) whether the number of animals that come for treatment at the above two dispensaries has increased of late; and

(*c*) what the average daily number of cases required is for maintaining a dispensary?

A.—(*a*) The Government have ordered the closure of the veterinary dispensary at Udipi. There is no proposal now before Government to close the dispensary at Puttur.

(*b*) There is no recent information regarding Puttur. The average daily attendance at the dispensary, Udipi, till June 1931 was as follows:—

1st September 1929 to 31st March 1930 ...	5·21
1st April 1930 to 31st March 1931	5·88
April 1931	6·13
May 1931	9·93
June 1931	5·53

(*c*) No precise standard has been fixed.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister will give the number of animals brought for treatment in the Veterinary dispensary at Udipi after June last and say whether the number has not increased appreciably during the last five or six months? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I have got figures only up to 1931 and I should like to have notice to answer my hon. Friend's question."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I ask the hon. Minister to call for the figures and reconsider the matter of continuing the dispensary? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I do not think there is any necessity for calling for information, because from a perusal of the average for the last two or three years, it is clear that it is not likely that the figures would have gone up during the period mentioned by the hon. Member."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know the reason why Government have considered the desirability of closing the dispensary? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Because the attendance has been poor and that the dispensary has not been taken advantage of by the people and so the Government thought it unnecessary to spend any more money on it."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Do Government propose to dispense with the services of the men in charge of the dispensary also? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" If they cannot be provided otherwise."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Have Government come to any decision on that point as to what they propose to do with the men in charge of this dispensary? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I should like to have notice."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, if this dispensary is closed, what is the nearest dispensary which the people of Udipi can take their animals to and how many miles away is it from the one which will be closed? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I must have notice. There is one at Puttur, but I cannot tell you what exactly is the distance."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Is the hon. Minister aware that Udipi is the second most important town in South Kanara? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Probably it may be so, but I am only concerned with the attendance in the dispensary and not with the importance of the town."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" I have got information to the effect that the number of animals coming for treatment in the dispensary has increased of late and in view of that may I request the hon. Minister to reconsider the decision? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" If the hon Member can give me the figures and also guarantee that the high figure will be maintained and continued, certainly Government will consider the question of keeping the dispensary on."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—" Is it the impression of the hon. Minister that the figures would have been purposely inflated? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" No. I am not going to question the bona fides of any hon. Member."

Fisheries

The trawler ' Lady Goschen '.

* 1042 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to dispose of the trawler ' Lady Goschen '; and

(*b*) what the Retrenchment Committee has recommended in regard to this matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Retrenchment Committee recommended that the ' Lady Goschen ' should be disposed of on the best terms possible.

17th March 1932]

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know the reasons why Government want to dispose of the trawler ' Lady Goschen '? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" That is one of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee. To maintain it, large repairs will be required and it will be very costly and further the research work that this trawler was expected to undertake has not been quite as successful as was expected and we therefore thought it unnecessary to incur such a cost on this. There are also several other reasons."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether this trawler has discovered any fishing grounds? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Some."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" May I know what steps have been taken by Government to dispose of the trawler? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" The Director of Fisheries has been asked to sell it on the best terms possible. There is no information as to what steps he has taken."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN :—" I want to know what steps have been taken for selling the trawler? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Yes, I have answered."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that the Fisheries Committee recommended the employment of the trawler on mapping out fishing grounds along the whole coast line? Do the Government consider that the work so far done by the trawler is satisfactory? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" The Committee made its recommendation, but the present state of finances prevents our spending more on it at present. My hon. Friend is not quite right in his estimate of the work that has been so far done by the trawler."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether the Government expect a fair price for the trawler at this time? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I cannot say."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Is it to be disposed by negotiation or by public auction? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" We have advertised for purchasers."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" Is it by public auction or by private negotiation? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Public auction is very unlikely. We will get tenders and quotations and then we will settle."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether it is proposed to replace the boiler before selling the trawler? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" No, Sir, that is a very costly item. We are now proposing to sell it even with the present boiler."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" May I know what are the methods adopted by Government for the disposal of this costly trawler? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" It is not the Government that does it. It is the Director of Fisheries that does that by the usual method of advertisement in the newspapers."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur :—" Which are the newspapers in which the Government have advertised for this trawler? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I cannot say off-hand. I must have notice."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know what the estimated cost of the repairs to the trawler is? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" The estimates differ from time to time and I cannot give the figures off-hand. It is a very huge figure."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Roughly will it be a quarter of a lakh? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" May be."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" What is the *cost of the trawler itself?* "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I cannot say."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—DISPERSAL BY THE POLICE OF THE 'BUY INDIAN LEAUGUE' PROCESSION AT NARASAPUR.

* Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" With your permission, Mr. President, I want to ask the hon. the Home Member whether he has seen the reports in the newspapers that the 'Buy Indian League' procession had been dispersed during the last three days, 12th, 13th and 14th and that two schoolmasters who were superintending the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Examination at Narasapur and who came out of that building, were also severely beaten, even though one of the schoolmasters said that he had nothing to do with the Buy Indian League procession and that he was standing nearby, and whether the hon. the Home Member could enlighten the House why this has been done in spite of Government having mentioned that they would not really interfere with mere Swadeshi propaganda? "

17th March 1932]

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "Mr. President, as soon as I heard about the incident day before yesterday, I sent a wire to the Collector of the district for a report by telegram. He has sent the following wire: 11 a.

'Please refer "Hindu", 15th, page 8, heading Buy Indian Propaganda. Yesterday forenoon received information about renewed Congress activities in Narsapur. Hurried up to Narsapur yesterday afternoon. Made enquiries. On 12th. 13th and 14th instant Congress activities renewed under cloak of Buy Indian League. Processions organized collecting crowds in public bazaar carrying Congress tri-colour flags and singing Congress slogans. Police seized flags and Buy Indian placards carried by volunteers and dispersed unlawful assemblies using minimum force. Legitimate Buy Indian activities not being interfered with. Detailed report follows.'

"Until I get the detailed report of the Collector, it is not possible to give any further information beyond what is contained in the wire. In the meanwhile, the Chief Secretary has written a letter to the Secretary and President of the Buy Indian League as follows:

'I am directed to address you on the subject of the "Buy Indian League" operations. You have no doubt seen the Press Communiqué in which the Government welcomed the formation of the League as a sign that responsible leaders were coming forward to direct activities connected with the advertisement of Indian goods into legitimate channels. But the present campaign of picketing is definitely illegal, must be a source of embarrassment to the League at the outset. For example, agents of the "Buy Indian League" might easily be mistaken for picketers if they took up their position conspicuously in front of any particular shop and remained there ostentatiously. Again distributors of "Buy Indian" circulars might be mistaken for distributors of seditious literature.

'I am therefore to suggest that you get into touch with the Commissioner of Police and District Magistrates before beginning operations, so as to prevent misunderstandings arising or unfortunate incidents occurring.

'Necessary instructions have been issued to the Commissioner of Police and District Magistrates who will be glad to discuss matters with the officers of the League. I am in this connexion to ask you for a prospectus of the subject of the League and how they are to be carried out, so that there may be no misunderstanding at the outset.'

"We have also issued instructions to the District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police in the course of which it is said:

'The Buy Indian League is being addressed to get into touch with District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police before they start operations, so that misunderstandings may not arise. Meanwhile, District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police should issue instructions that there should be no interference with the activities of the "Buy Indian" League so long as they do not transgress the law. The Government wish to avoid all appearance of interference with the legitimate advertisement of Indian goods, so there is particular need for discretion on the part of all officers.'

"Those instructions have been issued to the District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police so that under a misunderstanding they may not do anything untoward to the Buy Indian League."

(An hon. Member: 'What about yesterday's events?')

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move that the business of the House do stand adjourned to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the beating of the members of the Buy Indian League by the Police at Narsapur who went about in procession and were only distributing Buy Indian League leaflets."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"Have the Government to say anything in the matter?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, as I have already stated, it is not possible for the Government to say anything more than what I have said just now. Therefore, Sir, I have to object to the motion."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Sir, I would like to appeal to my hon. Friend behind me that in view of the fact that the hon. the Home Member has said that it is not possible for him to give any further information than what he has read out to the Council, I think it is only right that we should give him a chance to get further information on the matter before a discussion can take place. I also feel that no valuable discussions could take place so long as the hon. Gentleman is not in possession of full information in his hands. (Hear, hear.) In the circumstances, I appeal to my hon. Friend not to press his motion to-day, but wait until to-morrow or until such time as the hon. Gentleman receives the information he has been promised."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is not to-day that we have been trying to raise this question. We have been trying to make this motion for the last two days; and the Government have been in communication with the District Magistrate and have not been able to obtain the information. We know the object of the Government; but in view of the fact that the Leader of the Opposition has made an appeal, I withdraw it; but I shall have to make it to-morrow."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I cannot say if I shall have the information to-morrow. If I get it, it would be all right; if not, I fear I shall have to object."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"May I appeal to the hon. Gentleman, this matter being important, that after all, the Government have every facility they can possess for getting information, that it would be better to expedite the obtaining of information so that the uncomfortable feeling that exists, that these are all for purposes of checking the Swadeshi movement from spreading wide, may be removed?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I shall wire to the District Magistrate to hurry up the report."

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.

DEMAND XIII—JAILS—RESERVED—*cont.*

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I heartily support what my hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan urged yesterday in regard to the classification and treatment of political prisoners; I do not want to go over the same ground; I shall confine myself to the question of prison reform in general. Great strides have been made in recent years in the matter of Jail Reform in all the progressive countries of the West. They have taken many measures to keep offenders out of prison and to help them to lead cleaner lives after release. Look at the English system of prison of the present day. Their first aim is to

17th March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

keep offenders as far as possible out of jails and when convicts are received in prison, they try to exercise all possible reformatory influences on them. They have a system of preventive detention for incurables and they try in all ways to help ex-convicts to re-establish themselves as honest citizens. The result has been a great decrease in the number of criminals and a diminution in the number of prisons in Great Britain. Have we in this country adopted all possible measures to avoid committing offenders to jails? Do our jails really reform convicts? Do we take care to see that habitual offenders are cured of their criminality before we let them loose? Have we taken sufficient measures to put released prisoners on their legs and give them a chance to become good citizens once more? These are the tests by which our Prison administration is to be judged. If we look at the latest administration report, we find that during the year 1930, 90,837 people were received in prison and 88,648 persons were discharged. What a large number of persons pass through our prisons! The Indian Jails Committee has said that all possible measures should be taken to avoid commitment to prison and they have recommended for this purpose the prohibition of short sentences, the extension of the probation system and the introduction of indeterminate sentence. I find from the latest report that 6,751 people have been sentenced to terms of imprisonment not exceeding one month and 4,753 people to terms of imprisonment from 1 to 3 months. These form one-eighth of the total admission in jails. A great many of these must be first offenders. People who have not committed serious crime and those who are first offenders can be dealt with more satisfactorily under a system of probation as the Inspector-General of Prisons has been pointing out year after year. A considerable number of youthful offenders now sent to Borstal institutions could also be let off under a system of probation. The corrective value of short imprisonment is doubtful at best. More often it contributes to the process of criminal making. The Inspector-General of Prisons has been urging the introduction of a Probation of Offenders Act in this Presidency. At a Conference of Non-Official Visitors to Jails which met on the 31st of January this year in Madras, they have passed a resolution asking the Government to take early steps for introducing such an Act. The Government of Madras have been waiting for the Government of India to take steps in this matter. May I ask the hon. the Law Member to urge on the Government of India to take immediate steps for the introduction of a Probation of Offenders Act? The system of probation will save many people from going to jail and drifting to a life of crime. I should like to draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the elaborate speech of my hon. Friend Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti during the Budget debate last year. He spoke about the food, clothing, bath, and the punishments meted out to convicts in prison. The diet given to the prisoners in this Presidency is said to be inferior to the food given in the jails in other provinces. Colonel McCarison, the Food Expert, as well as the Inspector-General of Prisons, have recommended a change in the jail diet. Even prescribed jail diet which is considered to be unsatisfactory, is not

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [17th March 1932

actually being given to the prisoners. There is a lot of corruption, not only in the matter of food but in all matters. Well-to-do people are getting all amenities in jails while the poor are made to suffer. In addition, there is a lot of unauthorized punishments. The remedy must be sought in an improvement in the jail staff. The system of convict-officers should go. In England, Sir, the jail staff is said to be well-paid and well-qualified. The relation between the jail staff and the prisoners is said to be usually excellent there and the prisoners often look upon warders and jailors as their friends. If we want to reform our jails, we must recruit a better class of men. We must have men of character and education on the jail staff, men who are properly trained in humane and rational methods of treating convicts. I believe, Sir, we have got no training schools in this province for jailors and warders.

"The jail population is broadly classified as habituals and casuals. They had during the latest year under report 2,346 persons under the former category and these form about 10 per cent of the total admissions. These habituals are the most difficult people to deal within the jails—they are an unruly set and they receive most of the punishments within the jails—and when they come out, they are responsible for most of the serious crimes. In all civilized countries, it has been recognized that long term prisoners should be correctly classified and differential treatment should be given to them. They must be put in different prisons. In our jails they have separated the casuals from habituals and segregated the worst type in jails specially intended for them, at Salem and Vizagapatam. But the process of segregation of these habituals is not yet completely carried out. In England and in America, they have got what is called preventive detention prisons for habituals. The habituals are not released as soon as they finish serving their
,5 terms in jail. When the term of imprisonment of this class of habitual
a. offenders expires, it should be seen whether they are fit to be discharged, whether they will lead an honest life; and if it is found that their conduct has yet to be rectified, then they should be segregated and detained in a separate jail. In regard to this the Inspector-General of Prisons has pointed out that the Alipuram Jail could be converted into a special jail for recidivists who are unfit for release. Prolonged imprisonment with hard labour is no cure for confirmed criminals. The incorrigible class of criminals must be kept in preventive detention prisons as in England. If such people are let loose, they become a source of trouble to the people as well as to the police until they go back to the prison again.

"An important factor in converting convicts into good citizens is the system of after-care. When a person has served a long sentence in jail and he comes out, he finds it very difficult to find a job and earn a decent living. He is generally suspected by his own people and he is shunned by society; and at a time like this he requires help and support. No doubt there are a number of Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies in this province and they have rendered some help to

2,084 discharged prisoners in the year 1930. In this connexion I must say that this work of finding employment and setting ex-convicts to normal ways of life is not entirely left to philanthropic bodies even in advanced countries like England. Here, Government are paying to the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society a paltry sum of Rs. 5,000 out of Rs. 23·23 lakhs spent for our jails. Government should not think that their duty ceases when the jail gates close behind the prisoners. They have a duty in seeing that these criminals are restored to society; and to this end they should not grudge spending money; for in so doing they will be in the long run saving a large amount of money. (Hear, hear.)

"There are a number of non-official visitors to prisons. I do not know on what basis the selection is made. Are they choosing men who have any knowledge of crime and criminals? Are they people who take interest in prison reform? Do the Government give all facilities to them for visiting jails and especially for paying surprise visits? Are their recommendations given proper weight? I remember Mr. C. V. Venkataramana Ayyangar in his speech as Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Conference of Non-Official Visitors to Jails, held in January, pleaded pathetically that some weight must be given to the recommendations of these visitors instead of their being thrown into the waste-paper basket. I do not know whether Government have paid any attention to this request. If Madras is to come into line with advanced countries in scientifically dealing with criminals, then Government must adopt the measures of reform I have outlined. Any increase of expenditure that may have to be incurred for this purpose will really prove an economy in the long run by reducing the expenditure on our jails, courts of justice and the police."

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, the hon. the Law Member has always been very kind to us in this matter, i.e., whenever people have got to go to him and talk to him about the classification of various prisoners. I can cite particular cases where he has been good enough to listen to our representations and change the prisoner from one class to another. I want to ask him whether it would not be possible to get a list of most of these prisoners together with the class in which they have been placed. Because he himself knows that most of them are placed in the 'C' class. I can cite one case, the case of Mr. and Mrs. Prabhu, in which Mrs. Prabhu was put in the 'C' class and she was given *ragi* diet for some days, and when this matter was brought to the notice of the hon. Law Member, he was good enough to put her in 'A' class. There are several such instances where respectable people have been put into the 'C' class and it is not always possible to approach Government or secure the services of influential people with Government to take them to the notice of the hon. Law Member; and so it is really difficult for people to get justice done with regard to classification. I would therefore appeal to him to see whether it would not be possible to get a list of these prisoners and go into their cases so that proper justice might be done. I know the hon. Law Member will raise the plea that the list is too large and after all it would not be worth the trouble involved

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [17th March 1932

in its preparation. But I say the times are such and the feeling in the country is such that he will be doing, after all, his duty to his own country if he takes the trouble involved in getting the list and in seeing what can be done in the classification of the prisoners."

* Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am very glad that our convicts are given not only education in jails, but also vocational training. They are trained in gardening, they are trained to produce vegetables not only for their own consumption but also for being sent to the market for sale; and then they are trained in dairy farming, in carpentry and in blanket making, so much so that they bring substantial profit to the Jail administration. But I am sorry for the remark of Captain Winter yesterday, though I admire his maiden and eloquent speech; he took objection to the jail doing all these things. Sir, as remarked by the previous speaker, Mr. Shetty, the prisoners are given this training in jails so that they might after their period of sentence go out and eke out an honest livelihood. I am glad the hon. the Law Member trains them in that direction. And when they go out there is the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society and there is our Friend, Rao Bahadur R. V. Krishna Ayyar, to see that they get some employment. Then, Sir, there are non-official jail visitors like Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar to see that they are treated well while they are in jails, and, as remarked by Mr. Shetty, these jails are to be reformed as soon as possible by adopting his (Mr. Venkataramana Ayyangar's) suggestions. I am glad, Sir, these people are given training in jails, in spite of Captain Winter's complaint that they are competing with his business. After all, Sir, the goods produced in jails will not be worth more than two or four lakhs, and Captain Winter is doing business on a large scale. There is absolutely no comparison between the two. He cannot complain of competition at all. If need be, let him approach the Jail authorities in his place and enter into a compromise with them by telling them, 'Look here, you bring all your finished goods to me, I shall fix a price for them and take them, then I will dictate my terms to the public.' He can do that; but instead of that he wants Government to see that all these prisoners are sent to the Anamalais —I am glad he did not suggest to send them to the Andamans—to work there on forced labour. Well, Sir, there is a Forced Labour Bill waiting in Parliament. Any production by forced labour will not be allowed to enter into Great Britain. Sir, in Triplicane, the Anjuman is doing splendid work. Then, is it left to the neighbour Messrs. Spencer & Co., to say that the Anjuman should be closed down? Such being the case, I request Captain Winter not to press his point in regard to this industry.

" Now, Sir, I am coming to the Jail administration in the country. I do not know why there are three classes of prisoners in India. In other countries, I learn there are only two classes, namely, those convicts who have previous convictions and those who have not got previous

17th March 1932] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

convictions. Those who have not previous convictions are put into the 'A' class and those who have previous convictions are put into the 'B' class. Such being the case, I don't know how the 'C' class came into existence in this country. I think this class is intended for habitual criminals, hardened criminals and incorrigible criminals. Does the hon. the Law Member want these political prisoners to be classified among such criminals? Are political prisoners dacoits or highway robbers? After all what crime have they committed? We think as constitutionlists they broke the law. Some people think they were martyrs. I ask why there should not be a separate class for 'political prisoners'. They should not be mixed with the other classes of prisoners.

"Then, Sir, I do not know why the Madras Government or the hon. the Law Member—I do not know who is responsible for this—has put all medical people under the 'C' class. Even a reputed gentleman like the well-known Dr. Pattabhi Sitharamayya of Masulipatam has been put into the 'C' class."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I am sorry my friend is wrong there. He has been put in the 'A' class."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"Yes, he was first put in the 'C' class and then he was perhaps elevated to the 'A' class. (Laughter.) I hope the hon. the Law Member will see that hereafter medical people are put only in the 'A' class. For if you put them in the 'C' class what will happen is that the bitterness of feeling created in them may easily spread and thus more bitterness will be caused.

"Then, Sir, you are putting our women, our middle class and respectable women in the 'C' class. You put also respectable men in this class. Will the hon. Member please let us know what sort of work they are made to do there? Are they given ragi to eat and are they made to grind ragi? And if they do not do the work, are they flogged and thus forced to do the work? Do you want our respectable women to eat ragi? Do you want our respectable women to grind ragi? Do you want our respectable men to grind ragi? Do you want our respectable people to be flogged? I request the hon. the Law Member to see that corporal punishment as a whole is abolished once for all. Flogging was adopted in those barbarous days when mankind was not civilized. Do you want those things to be repeated in these civilized times? Do you want the old Spanish Inquisitions to come on? I wonder why the S.P.C.A. should not take action in such cases. Of course they are taking care of mute animals. I ask why not they take care of these intelligent animals?

"Then another thing I want to say is about under-trial prisoners. They are kept in custody before trial takes place. While they are in custody they are put, I learn, in a cell for 21 hours and they are not given enough water. All these things shake the reputation which the British Government has built up during the last 150 years.

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [17th March 1932

"Then, Sir, the women political prisoners are not allowed to have their bangles and kumkum. Sir, these are things which are the chief symptoms of every *sumangali*. It is only when the husband dies that the wife discards all these. I am sure the hon. the Law Member is aware of this. It is a custom prevalent in the Tamil and Telugu districts. And it is but fair that every married woman should be allowed these privileges. Once more I request the hon. the Law Member to put all medical people and women in the 'A' class only. I hope justice would be done in the matter."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"The hon. Member for the City of Madras has said much about the classification of prisoners and the treatment of women and medical men in the jails. I would only support, Sir, what he has said by quoting some of the instances which have come to my notice. The hon. the Law Member has always been promising us, Sir, that if individual instances are brought to his notice he would take action and get the grievances redressed. I would like to mention these few instances to him and see what he does in the course of the next few days. The classification of prisoners we understood at one stage as a thing left to the convicting Magistrate. I do not know whether that was the position really, or whether the position that once existed has undergone any change. Because we often find there is no consistency in convicting Magistrates in sentencing prisoners to a particular treatment. I have a number of cases, Sir, to show that persons who were on the last occasion awarded the A class have now been put in the C class, not even in the B. I would refer the hon. the Law Member to the case of Lakshmi Ammal, wife of Dr. Sankara Ayyar, who is now put in the C class. She took part in the movement last year and she was in the A class. I do not see, Sir, what has transpired between last year and this year that this eminent lady who has shown her patriotism double-fold should be classed in the C class instead of A. She is the wife of Dr. Sankara Ayyar who is well-known for his status and position in life. I find, Sir, that in some cases the District Magistrate or the Subdivisional Magistrate sending people to a higher class and in some by strange incidence or coincidence—I do not know what it is—those people who were originally in the B class have been transferred to the C class. I refer the hon. Member to the case of Mr. Sivaramakrishna Ayyar and Mr. N. Narayana Ayyar, both practitioners of Madura, who were originally put in the B class but since transferred to C. It is not known whether their position gets converted from B to C, and whether their status and position in life get so quickly transformed from the higher to the lower class. Then, Sir, there are Messrs. S. N. Kumaraswami and P. K. Raghavachari, very rich Sourashtra merchants of Madura, who are put in the C class. These two gentlemen pay enormous sums to Government by way of income-tax and also land-revenue assessment and they are rotting in jail in the C class. Even their wives are not left immune. The wives also took part in the Civil Disobedience Movement and they have been put in the C class in the Vellore Jail. I do not know whether the hon. the Law Member has already been asked to interfere in their cases because these are women who are wives of very

17th March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

well-to-do and prominent gentlemen who are honoured by all people in Madura. There is another case, of Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar in Dindigul, an advocate, paying a very high sum to Government as income-tax. He commands great influence and position in the whole of Dindigul. He is a very prominent member of the bar and he is put in the C class. I would like to know what exactly are the rules and how they are worked and if any discretion is vested in the Magistrates. I think the Government will do well to ascertain definitely the status of politicals who are charged by the Police, irrespective of the representations of the Police in regard to them and put them in the proper class which they deserve. I do not know, Sir, whether I am correct or incorrect. I say that the discretion has been taken away from the convicting Magistrates and is now exercised from the headquarters, from the Government. If the Government are exercising this discretion it is all the more reason, Sir, that that discretion is exercised legitimately and in a proper manner. I request, Sir, the hon. the Law Member to tell us what exactly the position is and how the rights are enforced in regard to the classification of prisoners. There is one other point, Sir, which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member. Doctor Gopalaswami Ayyar of Periyakulam, a municipal councillor and an honorary assistant surgeon to the Government hospital, is now in the Trichinopoly Jail in the C class. I do not know what the circumstances are. A man who is enjoying such confidence, an L.M.S. and an honorary assistant surgeon, a municipal councillor and to boot the son of a retired Government servant drawing a pension of Rs. 300—if such a man, impelled by patriotic motives, does an act which has been dubbed illegal, as law-breaking, I do not see why he should be treated with vindictiveness and put in the C class. We have been always told that the Police and the Magistrates are not vindictive. There are instances which show that there is nothing but vindictiveness and revenge. If the Government are sure that their classification of the prisoners convicted does not show or does not betray in the least an idea of vindictiveness or revenge, they will be helping those friends as the hon. Member for the City of Madras by removing the suspicion that the Government are becoming worse and worse and losing confidence. I am referring to the loyalist Member who spoke previous to me and not to others. The other day, people were talking of political prisoners and war prisoners, that those Governments were barbaric, that they were devoid of justice and fairplay, that there was no civilization, that the burden of civilization was being carried on by the British Government. We now see things truly and well. We are reminded of the times of Ulagu and Chengeez Khan before they became Muslims and the rivers of blood that flowed into the City of Baghdad and all the ravages that were committed by them. What do we see in these days of modern civilization when responsible members are occupying posts of responsibility? What do we find? Poor politicals who have lost their freedom and are bound within prison walls, are beaten and flogged under what law we are yet to know. There has

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [17th March 1932

been no law that has been recently enacted by Ordinances to beat and flog prisoners in jails, prisoners who could not be taken care of by *anybody except the jail warders and the superintendents in whose* charge they are left. I refer to the instances of hunger strikes going on in the Bellary jail and to which reference has been made in the Press, the *Hindu* and the *Tamil Nadu*. Our attention has been drawn to those letters appearing in the Press by Diwan Bahadur P. Kesava Pillai *who has been shedding tears on the lot of prisoners* in the Bellary jail. They seem to be beaten in the jail and because of the oppression they go on hunger strike. There seems to be some reason or other for the hunger strike; either the superintendents are not efficient and not able to manage and treat the prisoners well or these prisoners are doing mischief. In either case there is ground, and legitimate ground, for the Government going into the question and finding out the reasons for the hunger strikes. What if strikes are going on? Is that a reason for their limbs being broken, making them fall sick *and transferring them to the hospitals?* Is it all because the *public have no access and no access is given to the public men to find* out the real circumstances that prevail in jails? What is it, Sir?

" I will go to the next point that is worthy of consideration by this House and which I think is necessary to be brought to the notice of the hon. the Law Member. In certain jails the supply of water is so inadequate that Brahmans and non-Brahmans and others who used to have two baths and three baths a day do not have even one bath a day. Water-supply is not provided for by any means of mechanical power in several of the jails. The *rigorous imprisonment* prisoners will have to draw all water from the wells or rotate some rotary pumps and if there are not sufficient number of rigorous imprisonment prisoners, then the water-supply goes down and less than the minimum that the prisoners are entitled to is given. Why should there not be any mechanical provision made in these jails for an adequate supply of water? I know instances in jails where the labour is so inadequate that if the provision of the minimum supply of water is to be given to the use of the prisoners, those hard labour prisoners will have to work all the 24 hours of the day. I do not know if there is any law which allows these superintendents to utilise the services of these hard labour prisoners for all the 24 hours of the day to go and work at the pump and pull out water from the wells. When questions are put, they reply that Government did not send down sufficient number of hard labour prisoners; so they cannot use sufficient water. Now on account of retrenchment they say mechanical lifting is impossible but this thing has been going on for years. It is not a matter of to-day or yesterday. I do not know why Government are so callous of the rights and liberties of individuals. They might be in jail to-day; to-morrow they are to be the future citizens. We cannot say what may happen or what may not. With regard to the B and C class prisoners, they are entitled to certain privileges under the rules. Those are not given. I think they are entitled to oil bath. If they are not entitled under the rules, the rules ought to be amended. Several doctors have said to me that on account of no o

17th March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

bath in the jails they fall sick and in a very bad manner. Why should these prisoners contract sickness on account of this very small item being denied? Because their liberties are curtailed, are they not to be given 12-15 the facilities which have become a part of their second nature and which p.m. in the opinion of the doctor himself are necessary for them to maintain their health? Then, some of these prisoners are not allowed fruits. The prisoners that go there are used to a certain kind of diet. In spite of their own request and in spite of their promise to meet the cost from their own pocket, they are not given fruits.

"Then, Sir, there is not adequate supply of butter-milk to those prisoners who are used to it. Although the doctors can exercise their discretion and recommend whatever is essential for the health of the prisoners, they do not generally do so out of fear that they would be taken to task by the Government. Even I.M.S. officers are subject to that fear, and so they do not recommend any privileges even to the A and B class prisoners, and are reluctant to give the full benefit of the rules to these prisoners.

"There is one great injustice done by some of the convicting Magistrates. Some of the eminent men who seek the jail on account of their convictions are put upon a mixed diet. A mixed diet means some ragi, some rice and what other things I do not know. People used to a high standard of life must be given the diet they are used to. The Magistrate of Villupuram—I do not know whether he is still there—and the Magistrate of Krishnagiri—or of the division where Krishnagiri is—these two Magistrates seem to be very vindictive. However high placed in life a man may be, if he goes before them on account of having done anything which the Police consider an offence but which several people say is no offence at all, simply because he comes there on account of the Police zoolum, he is convicted and put upon mixed diet. What happens is he contracts illness, and the jail authorities have great difficulty in making him eat the mixed diet. The jail warders and the jail superintendents complain of their difficulty to manage these prisoners, but all to no avail. So I would request the hon. the Law Member to see that mixed diet is not given to prisoners who are not used to it. Only the lowest classes of people are used to it. It is going out of fashion even among them.

"With regard to dress, the jail rules enable the prisoners to get two sets of dresses a week. Although the rule exists there for the benefit of the prisoners, in the working of the rule two sets are not given. What happens is one dress at the end of a week is given and another dress at the end of the next week, or two dresses at two extremities, that is during the beginning of the week one dress is given and at the end of it another dress is given. That is not working the rule in the interests of the prisoners. The two dresses should be equally distributed in the week so that they might get the benefit of them. This itself is a niggardly provision, and further niggardliness is shown by the jail authorities in practice. That works hardship on people who are

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [17th March 1932

used to clean clothing. Because their liberty is curtailed, is it fai that everything necessary for their living should be curtailed, evei those things which are vouchsafed under the rules and provisions o the Jail Code? So I would urge on the Law Member to make an investi· gation into these irregularities and rectify them.

" Sir, I would refer to one other case where ill-treatment is metec out to ladies. An eniment lady of Andhra desa, Srimati Durga Bai, whc was also convicted on a previous occasion, was compelled to wear white sarees in the jail at Madras. She is a married woman, a woman belonging to a high family and of culture as well. Among Hindus as well as among Muhammadans—I do not know the custom among other communities—no woman, unless she is a widow, wears white clothes. That being the custom, I do not see why a married woman of the position of Srimati Durga Bai should be forced to wear white sarees in spite of remonstrance. This is a glaring case of want of appreciation of the Indian sentiment. I do not know whether the man responsible for it was himself an Indian or not. If he is an Indian he must have lost himself to all sense of decency and propriety of things. If he is somebody else, he ought to be told that he ought to respect Indian sentiment, whatever it be. I would like the hon. the Law Member to make an enquiry and see whether such a thing cannot be stopped in jails. I trust that the hon. the Law Member will make a list of all the things that I have mentioned and tell the House what action he has taken when he does take some action."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, I do not want to take up much of the time of the House as has been done by my predecessor, for another reason which will be illustrated by this very question of jails. You all remember how the question of jail reform was discussed, how the sufferings of the prisoners were brought to the notice of the Government, and what solemn promise the hon. the Law Member made on the floor of this House during the Budget discussion last year, viz., to appoint a committee to go into the question of jail reform and to take action upon the recommendations of that committee. So far as my knowledge goes, practically nothing has been done in that matter. Now, Sir, if this is the way in which the Government treats the promises made by itself, I do not see why we should waste our time, the time of the Government and public money. I would ask the hon. the Law Member to say if it was with the intention of carrying out the investigation that this promise was made on the floor of this House last year, and if it was with that intention why that promise was not carried out. The other day, it was Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar, I think, who spoke as a member of the Retrenchment Committee, that said it is a fashion to criticise the Government on every matter. Far from it, Sir, I am rising on this occasion particularly to disprove that statement, because I do realize, even though this promise that I referred to has not been carried out, that it is our duty to congratulate the Government on their wisdom in releasing a very large number of Mappilla prisoners. No doubt the main reason was that a recommendation was made by the Retrenchment Committee for the abolition of the Alipuram

17th March 1932] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

Jail where most of the Mappilla prisoners were confined. I certainly am very much indebted to the Retrenchment Committee, for having made such a recommendation which has done some real good. But still we know the Government is all powerful, and even the Retrenchment Committee's recommendation could have been turned down by the Government. But they have not done so; they have acted up to it substantially. So I am really to express the gratitude of the Mappilla community for the action of the Government in having released a large number of them. Now, Sir, in that connexion I have to make an appeal to the Government. I understand that there are about 200 to 300 people more in the Alipuram Jail who have not been released and who I understand are to be distributed throughout the Presidency; I would request the hon. the Law Member to consider the cases of these prisoners also and see whether they also could not be released, and whether there is anything so special against them that they should not have the benefit of the policy which the Government has pursued with reference to the other prisoners. If their cases are considered, I am sure Government will find its way to release them also, in view of the fact that after all these prisoners were guilty of actions during abnormal times, and they would certainly deserve a better treatment if their cases were carefully considered.

" There is one other matter, Sir, which I know I need not advocate, because the hon. the Law Member had been the strongest advocate in that matter before he was absorbed into the Government, and that is the case of Mr. Narayana Menon. If all these several thousands of Mappillas whom the Government considered to be very dangerous in the interests of the peace of Malabar have ceased to be dangerous now and many of them have been released, I cannot imagine how the Government can think now that this one gentleman, Mr. Narayana Menon, can be so very dangerous as not to deserve coming under the liberal policy which the Government has been pursuing as regards such a large number of Mappilla prisoners. I have no doubt that the hon. the Law Member will consider these matters with sincerity and see his way to give effect to his own views which he expressed when he was on this side of the House.

" There is still another matter to which I would call the attention of the hon. the Law Member on this occasion, and that is, there are ever so many Mappillas, I understand, whose names are in a list for prosecution and who have been absconding on that account. It 12-
may be that there are real charges against them or no charges. p.m.
Somehow or other since their names had been included in the list, they had to abscond and many of them are in the Native States and others in some places outside India. I think it would be advisable on the part of the Government, in view of the policy that it has pursued with reference to other Mappilla prisoners, to consider the question of issuing an order of amnesty with reference to those people who have absconded to enable them to come back to their native land and thus give them a chance of leading a good life.

[B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur] [17th March 1932

"There is only one other matter to which I would like to invite attention of the hon. the Law Member and that is this: there are ever so many prisoners who have been released and who do require some sort of initial help to settle down in their lives, because many of them who had lands—of course only as tenants—have come back to see that they do not own anything. It is only to help them that a Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society has been formed in Malabar. I have no doubt that the Government have taken some interest in the matter and they do co-operate with such societies and help them. But I would request the Government to consider this particular society in a special manner and not to treat it like other Discharged Prisoners' Aid Societies, in view of the fact that there is a large number of people to whom this particular society should cater. The fact that the conditions of Malabar are not just as those in other places should also compel the Government to make some special grant to this society so that it may be helpful to these prisoners.

"As I do not want to take up any more the time of the House I resume my seat."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—"I am aware that the hon. the Law Member has to make a reply to the remarks that have been made by the several hon. Members who have preceded me. I therefore do not want to take much of the time of the House, but I would only mention to him that if he has followed the debate in this House he would have found that there has been a large complaint both as regards the classification of prisoners and also the treatment meted out to them in jails. With reference to the classification, I would only suggest to him whether he cannot raise the question of treating these political prisoners under a separate class, seeing there is a strong feeling both among the prisoners and also among the public. Many of these prisoners come from middle class people and their status is very different from that of the other prisoners. So, it would only be just to have a separate class for these political prisoners and give them a sort of treatment, at least that kind of treatment which the lower middle class people are accustomed to get outside the jails. Of course I know this is a matter which probably the Local Government cannot decide, but still they can initiate a discussion in the matter so that a new class of political prisoners may be brought about as early as possible.

"Then as regards other grievances, there are really very many with reference to the diet, interviews, supply of water, sanitation and other things. I am sure in view of the very large number of complaints that have been received, the hon. Member in charge agreed last time to consider the question of appointing a committee. I would point out to him that the complaints have not been in any way the less now. If anything, they have increased. Such being the case, I would ask him to consider the question of appointing a committee to

17th March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

go into the whole question. It is high time that, when so many complaints are made, he should try to meet public opinion both here and elsewhere by appointing a committee to make any changes that may be found necessary in the Jail Rules.

"There is one other matter which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. the Law Member. There have been so many complaints made that hon. Members of this House are handicapped for want of personal knowledge of these things occurring in jails. So, I would put it to the hon. the Law Member whether it would not be better both for the information of the Members of this House and also for a more intelligent and better discussion of matters coming up before this Council, if hon. Members of this Council are made ex-officio non-official visitors. If that is done it will give them an opportunity to know at first hand what is happening inside the jails instead of merely depending upon the information that comes to them from other sources and Government replying to them that such information is not true or something like that. Also from the standpoint of the Government, it will be safer and better for them, because, if such a course as I mentioned above is adopted, the Government would be able to get more reliable information than they are now getting. So, from the standpoint of both the Government as well as the public, it would be desirable to make the elected Members of this House ex-officio visitors of the different jails.

"Then, Sir, there is only one other matter about which I would like to make certain observations and that is this: A question has been raised as to whether these jail industries would not compete with other private industries. There is no doubt that there is some complaint that if the jails are going to compete with private industries, it would be a great hardship to the latter. Well, Sir, we have to look to the other side of the question also. We have to find some work or other to these convicts. In this connexion I may say that there is some proposal to employ these convicts in plantations. I do not think, whatever may be the view of the Government, hon. Members of this House would relish the idea of employing these convicts as labourers in the plantations of Nilgiris or Anamalais. It only brings to one's mind the old idea of employment of convict labour for plantations in America. I do not think that proposal can really stand. So, the only point is how are you going to employ this labour, if it is not going to be employed for the purpose of making cotton and woolen goods. The question of employing these convicts was considered several times in this Council and I believe the question was raised some two years ago, but the only conclusion that was come to always is that we have to employ these convicts so that the Government may get something in return in the shape of labour. If the Government are spending much money and if they want to make up a good portion of that money, certainly the best course for them is to make these jails the places for the production of goods wanted by the Government themselves. In the beginning they would do well to concentrate their attention on

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [17th March 1932

manufacturing goods, which they themselves want; then most of the convicts will be engaged on that labour. Now the Government get a lot of their goods from outside, especially those required by the Postal Department. I do not really agree with those who think that we have come to a stage when we are competing with private industries by manufacturing goods in jails. One hon. Member referred to a case in Tiruppur and how the production of goods in jails competed with a private firm started there and how that firm failed. I know a company was formed in Tiruppur for the purpose of manufacturing woollen goods but it languished on account of other causes and not because it had to compete with the carpets that were manufactured in jails. I had personally something to do with that firm and I know it was not actually on account of competition of jail carpets that this business became a failure."

Capt. W. E. WINTER:—" On a point of information, Mr. President, I did not say that these Jail industries competed with that firm and therefore it failed. What I said was that it would be better if the Government had placed some of their orders with such firms."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" I was only saying that the business of that firm was not killed by the manufacutre of jail goods. I knew that company. Otherwise I had nothing to complain about the speech of Captain Winter.

" So, I would request the Government to utilize convict labour as much as possible and try to get as much profit as possible to meet the heavy expenditure that they are incurring on account of keeping these persons in jails, at the same time without extracting sweated labour and without doing any harm to private industries."

* Mr. C. SATYANARAYANA CHOUDARI:—" There is no denying the fact that there are several things in the jail life in this Presidency which require immediate reformation. In the matter of food some jails are said to be really bad. For example, in the Central Jail at Rajahmundry the food supplied to the C class prisoners, whether they are political or non-political, it is immaterial, is said to be so bad that it is unfit for human consumption. It is said that the rice purchased is of the worst kind. It is also said that all kinds of wild green leaves including sometimes margosa leaves are used for the purpose of making soup. It is further said that there are nails and worms in the food supplied to ordinary prisoners. In the matter of clothing, bathing and other things, the difficulties of these persons have been narrated by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed. These are defects which ought not to be tolerated. They ought to be condemned in the name of humanity. The Jail Manual was framed a long time ago and it has become out of date. It was conceived in a punitive spirit and in terms of the zoo and the wild animals brought from the forests. It is high time that this Manual is revised in a more

17th March 1932] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

humane and reformative spirit. There is really no reason why the 12-
jails in India should he run on lines so different from those prevailing p.m.
in the West. In the matter of the classification of the prisoners the rules framed by the Government of India are very wide. They give ample discretion to the Local Governments. In fact the hon. Mr. Emerson has made it very clear in the Council of State that even in the view of the Government of India there ought to be a distinction made between ordinary common felons and political offenders. In this connexion I would be failing in my duty if I did not acknowledge with feelings of gratitude that the hon. the Law Member has really been adopting a forward and liberal policy in the matter of the classification of prisoners so far as they are brought to his notice. I am speaking from personal knowledge and I know of cases where his attention has been drawn to cases where people have been unjustly put in a lower class while they clearly deserved to be put in a higher class and he has decided the cases to the entire satisfaction of the parties concerned. My only request to the hon. the Law Member is to see that in the hundreds of cases that are still to be considered by him he will continue the same liberality and sympathy. So far as my own district is concerned, our District Collector Mr. Priestly is quite sympathetic and I have no complaints to make about my district in this matter.

"I have got a word to say about sub-jails. The buildings used for sub-jails in this Presidency seem to be of type-designs of a character where no air is allowed to enter the cells. In a place like Guntur where the temperature goes up to 119 or 120 degrees in summer, the plight of prisoners in the sub-jail could better be imagined than described. I would also request the hon. the Law Member to give due consideration to this aspect of the Jail administration and see that the cells in the sub-jails where mostly under-trial prisoners are kept, are made more airy and the condition of the under-trial prisoners is made less unhappy than it is to-day."

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Mr. President, various criticisms have been made by hon. Gentlemen in this House regarding various topics on Jail administration. I shall try to reply to all these criticisms. If however within the limited time at my disposal it is not possible for me to cover the whole ground, I shall at any rate deal with the more important of the criticisms here in the Council and shall consider later on very carefully the various minor points that have been raised in the course of the debate.

"The first point that I wish to refer to is the criticism of my hon. Friend Mr. Winter with regard to Jail industries. But before I reply to his criticism, let me say this: Mr. Winter began his speech by saying that he was going to make his maiden speech in the Council and therefore craved the usual indulgence of hon. Members given to one in his position. But I may tell my hon. Friend that he need not at all be ashamed of his performance in this Council. (Hear, hear.)

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [17th March 1932

On the other hand, I congratulate him on the nice speech that he made. It was a very good speech, not good in the sense that it contained wise criticisms or valuable suggestions, but good in the sense that the manner in which it was delivered was good and forcible. Having said so much about the manner of my hon. Friend's maiden speech, let me enter into the substance of his criticisms. The main point he made was that the Jail industries are now competing with private enterprise and that is not the right policy which Government should adopt. That was the burden of his song. He particularly referred to the weaving industry at the Coimbatore Jail. On this point, I may say at once that it is not the policy of the Government that Jail industries should compete with private enterprise. On the other hand, as I shall presently show, Government have asserted on more than one occasion that it is not their policy and that the articles which are manufactured in jails are intended mainly for the consumption of the Government departments.

"Now two things have to be remembered when we consider the question of Jail industries and I am glad that my hon. Friends Messrs. Ramalingam Chettiyar and Natesa Mudaliyar referred to them in a way. The Government owe a duty to the prisoners and they also owe a duty to the tax-payers. As my friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar stated, these prisoners are there and they have to be fed, housed and clothed; all this costs money which ultimately falls on the tax-payer; it is therefore necessary that some work must be given to these prisoners so that some compensation for the money of the tax-payer which is being spent on them may be obtained. That is one aspect of the matter and I am glad that my hon. Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar emphasized it. Another aspect is this. I think this aspect was emphasized by Mr. Shetty. One of the objects of the Government in the treatment of these prisoners is to reform the criminals and induce them to give up their criminal habits and make them good citizens when they come out of jails. With that object we teach these prisoners some good industry so that when they come out of prison, they may be enabled to lead an honest life without resorting to their former lives of crime.

"My hon. Friend Captain Winter referred to a resolution of the Government of India of the year 1912, which in turn referred to another resolution of the Government of India of the year 1886, i.e., about 45 years ago. My friend will allow me to say that in this matter he is far behind the time; he does not know that both these resolutions have been practically cancelled by the Government of India.

"Let me now read a few extracts from the report of the Jail Committee of the year 1920, on this subject of Jail industries. Before I do so, let me say a word as to the composition of the committee and its method of procedure. It was composed of officials and non-officials—very eminent men in public life—and they travelled

17th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

throughout the whole of this continent of India and visited the jails in all parts of the country. They examined experienced Magistrates and experts in prison administration. Not content with this, the Committee went to Great Britain and visited many of the important jails in England and Scotland. Then they crossed over to the United States of America and did the same there with the help—I am thankful to say—of the United States Government. Then they went to Japan and the Philippines and with the help of the respective Governments visited many of their important jails. They also had interviews with the most eminent experts in the treatment of prisoners, experts who had spent their whole lifetime in the study of crime and its treatment. After all this laborious work they submitted a voluminous report to the Government of India. Now on this question of Jail industries this is what they say. Let me read a few extracts from the report as the subject is a very important one and as Captain Winter pressed his point:

' . . . *an attempt shoud be made to teach jail labour the use of modern* methods, the machine tool and machinery generally. In this connexion, we think, we cannot ignore the more general considerations which surround the issue. The world is in great need of increased production; should not the labour which is available in jails be employed in the most productive manner? India is on the verge of great industrial development; should not the prisoner in jail be helped and qualified to take his part in this development? Apart from these possibilities, it is evident that training under modern conditions must possess a greater instructional value than a period passed in breaking stones, in turning the handle of an oil-press or even in working the simple primitive mechanism of a handloom. We have come to the conclusion that greater benefit to the prisoner will be conferred by giving him the best available instruction in up-to-date methods of labour and so enabling him to command a living wage on his relaese from prison.' (Page 120 of Report of I.J.C.)

" In another portion the report says:

'In order that this system may be effectively carried out it is necessary that, as far as possible, attention should be concentrated in each jail on one or two large industries.' (Page 120.)

" In the Coimbatore Jail to which my friend referred, attention is concentrated on the cotton industry.

" Then there was raised the question of the market for jail manufactures. The articles that are now manufactured in the jails are intended only for the consumption of Government departments, like the Police Department and the Excise Department. The same report says *on this point:*

'We think therefore, that it is beyond question that jail industries should be adapted as far as possible to meet the requirements of the public consuming departments and that these departments should, on their part, be compelled to purchase articles of jail manufacture . . .' (Page 121.)

'If the consuming departments of the public service are to be made to obtain their requirements from the jails, it seems clear that the jails must be held responsible for supplying articles thoroughly suitable to the needs of those departments. No department of the State can be expected to accept inferior or unsuitable goods merely because they are made in a jail. The jails must therefore be so equipped and staffed as to be able to turn out articles as good as those procurable in the open market.' (Page 122 ibid.)

" My hon. Friend referred to a resolution of the year 1886 which was reinforced by a resolution of the year 1912. With reference to this

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [17th March 1932

resolution they say in this report—evidently my hon. Friend has not read this report—that the resolution was inconsistent with itself and that it should be reconsidered. The report reads:

'It is in this connexion that the Home Department Resolution No. 10-605-18, dated the 7th May 1886, reaffirmed in the letter, dated 29th April 1912, No. 145-154, on the subject of jail manufactures seems to us most to require modification. After laying down that jails must cater for Government departments and that Government departments must buy from jails, it goes on to say that jails must not be converted into steam factories, and though the use of steam machinery is not prohibited no large extensions are to be permitted without the sanction of the Government of India . . .' (Page 122)."

,m. Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Please come to the present century."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It seems to us that these instructions are in essence self-contradictory.

"Then they go on to say:

'There is a numerous class of articles which cannot be given the requisite *finish by hand and for which machinery is indispensable. These, it is obvious,* jails cannot supply if they are prevented from installing the requisite apparatus.'"

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Leave Captain Winter alone, come to summer."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I hope my friend will allow me to reply in my own way, without interfering with me. They say:

'But such conditions never occur in jails, for there the expert worker just as his skill has reached a high standard, comes to the end of his sentence and is released.'

"Then, ultimately, they say . . ."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"May I ask a question, Sir?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Not now, this is not question time; excuse me, Mr. James. I am not willing to be interrupted, I may tell my friend, Sir.

'To sum up the arguments contained in the foregoing paragraphs, we consider that as the reformation of the prisoner is the chief object to be kept in view, and as familiarity with power-driven machinery is instructive and mind-awakening, the provision of such machinery subserves the true functions of Jail administration.'"

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know what the page is?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My friend cannot know anything from me except what I choose to tell him now."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"He only wants to know the page."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Page 125 of the report.

"As a matter of fact, I may tell my friend Captain Winter that though the object of the Government is that Jail industries should be utilized by the consuming departments of Government, these consuming departments themselves complain about the quality of the goods produced

17th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

in the jails, for the obvious reason that the operatives that are employed in the jails are unskilled. Thus, ultimately, there can be no question of competition of goods produced by such men with goods produced by skilled workmen outside the jail.

"Then my friend Captain Winter made a suggestion. I wish my friend had not made that suggestion. He said that if the Government want to give labour to these prisoners, they may be employed in the Government plantations at Anamalais. It is—if my friend will allow me to say so—a very cruel suggestion. It is an inhuman suggestion. What is the implication of my friend's suggestion? Does my friend know that our prisoners, the bulk or at any rate a very large portion, probably more than 90 per cent of our jail population, consist of persons born and bred in the plains, not in the hill stations, and that they are not accustomed to the conditions of hill stations? Does my friend know what the result of the carrying out of his suggestion will be? If the jail population is to be sent to the Anamalais, the chances are that they will easily fall a prey to malaria. The case is different in the case of those who go there voluntarily as coolies. They get very good wages and they can protect themselves from the various diseases. I am very glad that my friends, both Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar and Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar referred to this aspect of the question. I may tell my friend that the Government are not even thankful to him for making that suggestion, and certainly they are not prepared to carry out my friend's suggestion (Hear, hear). Having said all this, I may tell my friend that if he brings to my notice particulars, such as the names of persons who are employed by the Jail Department to sell the articles manufactured in jails, and specific instances of jail manufactures competing with private enterprise, I am prepared to take action, and see that such things are not generally allowed.

"Then, Sir, I will go to the criticisms of my other friends. But I am afraid that I shall be able to refer only to some of these criticisms. Before, however, I deal with them, I shall refer to the subject that was raised at question time this morning, namely, that glass bangles are not allowed to be worn by women when they are sent to prison. With reference to this, I find from some of the questions put by my friends that there is some feeling in the House. I will make enquiries into the matter and if I find that a custom exists according to which the wearing of bangles by women is considered to be particularly sacred, I shall introduce a new rule into the Jail Manual where there is no such rule now, stating that such things should be allowed hereafter.

"Then, I shall refer, as I said, to some of the major points. With reference to the appointment of a committee, my friend said that I promised to appoint one. As a matter of fact, if my friend will refer to the proceedings of last year, he will find that I did not actually promise. What I said was that I would consider the question of appointing a committee, and I went on to say that if such a committee was to be appointed, I would consider certain points with reference to the

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [17th March 1932

constitution of that committee. My friend wanted that Members of this Council also should be appointed as Members of that committee. I believe I said that if a committee was to be appointed, I would see to it.

"Then, with reference to the question of the classification of prisoners, I am sure that my friends know that the rules relating to the classification of prisoners into A, B and C classes, were made by the Government of India. This Government has no power to interfere with them. As a matter of fact, as a result of deliberations in a conference which went on for two days in Delhi in which the Inspectors-General of Prisons from different Provinces and also the Government Members in charge of prison administration were present—I myself happened to be present on the occasion—and over which the Home Member of the Government of India presided, the Government of India adopted these classifications and the Local Government have therefore no power to interfere with them. As my friends know, the main provisions in these classifications are these: the convicting magistrate has to put any particular person into any one of the classes, A, B, or C, according to the nature of the offence, and also with reference to the standard of living which the prisoner was accustomed to. The convicting magistrate has to send his recommendation to the District Magistrate in the case of A, B and C classes. The District Magistrate does not send up his recommendations to the Government in respect of the C class; but in the case of the A and B classes, the District Magistrate sends the convicting magistrate's report with his own observations, to the Government, and the Government, as the ultimate revising authority, come to their conclusion.

"My friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed referred to several prisoners. Of course, my friend knows that naturally it is not possible for me to remember all of them; but while my friend was speaking, I got information from my office so far as it was available there. Mrs. Lakshmi Ammal, wife of Dr. T. C. Sankara Ayyar, referred to by him and Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyar of Periyakulam, were originally placed in the C class; but the Government, on representations received, got reports from the District Magistrate and on the strength of those reports, have placed both these persons in the A class. Then again, my friend referred to Mr. Kumaraswami and Mr. P. K. Raghavachari and the wives of these two persons and also to one Mr. Subrahmanya Ayyar, an advocate. I may tell my friend that these have been placed in the B class. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Why not A class?) The classification depends, as I said, on the standard of living to which they were accustomed, and so it was not possible to put them in the A class. In this connexion, I may tell my friend that if he takes the trouble of getting statistics from the other Presidencies regarding the number of prisoners who are placed in the A and B classes, he will find that this Government has always been more liberal than the other Governments. Then again, one Mr. Sivaramakrishna Ayyar and another gentleman of Madura were referred to. With reference to them, if representation

17th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

are made to me, by the relatives or the friends of the persons or by persons interested in them, I shall make enquiries. I shall then call for reports from the District Magistrates and take action according to circumstances. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'Why not act on our representation here?') Let me have something definite. If my friend will send me something in writing instead of making these vague allegations here, I will take action.

"Then my friend Mr. Hameed Khan made many suggestions and some of his suggestions are in common with those made by my other friends. He said that even to-day there is racial discrimination as between Indians and non-Indians, regarding food, etc. My friend makes a mistake there. He evidently refers to an old edition of the Jail Manual. If he refers to the latest edition of the Manual, he will find that this distinction has been done away with. There is no difference now between Indian and non-Indian prisoners. There is no racial discrimination at all."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I ask if there are any Europeans in the C class?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I cannot say anything without notice on that point. Then, my friend Mr. Shetty stated that the conference of non-official visitors to jails which was recently held in Madras referred to the need for the passing of a Probation of Offenders Act. I may tell my friend how the position stands now. The Government of India have told this Government that the Probation of Offenders Act is one which should be enacted by the Indian Legislature and not by the Local Government. My friend the hon. Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chettiyar the other day moved a resolution in the Council of State recommending to the Government that the Probation of Offenders Act should be passed, and the Government of India accepted that resolution. They framed a Bill and sent that Bill to the different Provincial Governments for opinion. We have supported the main provisions of that Bill, and said that it is necessary that the Bill should be passed into law.

"There are many other suggestions, Sir, made by my friends. I shall just refer to the request of my friend Mr. Pocker regarding the Mappilla prisoners. The position regarding them stands thus: after I gave an undertaking in this Council on the last occasion, that is, on the occasion of the last Budget discussion, the Government carefully went into this matter and released a very large majority of these Mappilla prisoners. For instance, there were on that occasion about 1,700 prisoners. All these Mappilla prisoners except 300 have been released. One hundred and forty-four persons are under orders of release; they are coming now from the Andamans. The cases of 30 persons are under consideration. There are still 270 prisoners. The Government examined all these cases individually and they have come to the conclusion that it is not desirable to release these 270, for the reason that

these prisoners are guilty of murder, forcible conversion and offences against women. My hon. Friend himself will not say that they should be released. I have no time to reply to the other points raised. (An hon. Member: What about Mr. Narayana Menon ?) His case will be considered. In these circumstances, I hope my hon. Friend Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan will not press his motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,46,500 under Demand XIII—Jails.' "

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XIV—POLICE—RESERVED.

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

'that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,54,10,600 under Demand XIV—Police—Reserved'."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, I beg to move that the Demand just now moved for Police be reduced by a sum of Rs. 100 to discuss the policy of the Police Department. Concerning the policy adopted by the Police Department in connexion with the civil disobedience movement, I need hardly say that it has received from all sides of this House and from the outside public severest condemnation. I do not think that, within recent times, any other department of Government has come in for so much criticism as the Police Department; nor have any Government measures been considered to be so unsatisfactory as the course of action adopted by the Government and by the Police Department in dealing with the civil disobedience movement. We, on this side of the House, were prepared to support the Government in all measures necessary to establish Law and Order according to Law and the Ordinances. It has been frequently pointed out that the Government is not satisfied merely with enforcing the laws of the country and with putting into effect the Ordinances, but it has gone beyond these limits and had recourse to methods which can hardly be defended under any considerations of law or of humanity. The Government has said that these measures are necessary to establish an atmosphere that will prepare the country for the coming Constitutional Reforms. If the Government sincerely believes this, I think it is labouring under a serious disillusionment. Every day that passes, every day that the Government continues the adoption of these inhuman methods, it will find that it is losing its supporters. Every day people are becoming converts to the other doctrine that this Government and this constitution are unsuitable, that they must be put an end to, and that they must adopt suitable methods to get a Constitution that will safeguard our elementary liberties.

17th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

"I shall try to be brief and I shall confine myself to asking some questions of the hon. the Home Member. He told this House the other day that the Government has issued instructions on the 15th January to the various officers concerning the use of force and its limitations as it envisages it. We understand that these instructions were to the effect that force must be used strictly in accordance with the law regarding the dispersal of unlawful assemblies and that even then, only the minimum force should be used. But we were surprised when we found that in the Communiqué of the 23rd January last—which formed the subject-matter of an adjournment motion on the floor of this House —the Government has stated in no uncertain terms that it has come to the conclusion that arrest was not the proper thing to do with reference to the civil resisters and that the Government does not want to put these people to the disgrace of sending them to jails. The Government has determined not to comply with the wishes of the people; on the other hand it is going to use force and not to arrest people; it thinks that beating is the proper thing for these people. Sir, words to this effect are found in the Communiqué. May I ask my hon. Friend, the Home Member, whether this Communiqué is the last word on the matter, whether the Government has practically withdrawn the instructions issued on the 15th January? What are the orders now in force concerning the treatment of the picketers? What are the orders concerning the dispersal of even unlawful assemblies? To what extent has the Government asked its District officers to have recourse to the use of force? May I also ask what the orders are with reference to the treatment of individual picketers? Supposing there are one or two persons who are picketing, they are ordered to disperse and they do not disperse, does the Government propose to arrest them or has it given orders that they should be beaten, and that, after being beaten, they should be dealt with according to their laws, arrested, prosecuted and punished? I wish to ask whether the orders which are envisaged in the Communiqué of the 23rd January are the ones still in force; that is to say, has the Government decided that it must beat the picketers, and that it is not prepared to arrest them till they have been beaten? I would like my hon. Friend to give a definite contradiction to these orders.

"As many hon. Members are very anxious to speak, I do not want to take up much time and I shall refer only to a few general points. For instance, numerous complaints have reached us that people who are guilty of no other offence except that of wearing khaddar are beaten by the Police. Has the Government given any orders that people wearing khaddar are to be beaten? Then, Sir, men and women who go about picketing are very often beaten first, put into the Police bus, taken out to out of the way places miles away from their residences and left there very often in the night to come back if they can. Sir, under what law do the subordinate Police officers put these people into the Police bus after beating them and leave them on the roadside to come back as best as they can? Not only this: there have been cases brought to our notice in which, when these helpless people who are beaten and

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [17th March 1932

left on the roadside by the Police find their way to some neighbouring house or village, some generous persons pitying the condition of the beaten people, giving them food and shelter for the night, these people who give food and shelter are set upon by the Police and beaten black and blue. I am aware that there are Ordinances against those who help the civil resisters. But if a person gives food and shelter to a helpless man who is beaten and left practically dead on the roadside with nobody to look after him, is that an offence? I do not think, Sir, that heartlessness and brutality can go any further.

"Numerous complaints have been made on the floor of this House and the Government is often issuing Communiqués to the effect that it made enquiries into the matter and found those complaints false. The Government asks us to believe its version. May I tell them that the stage has gone when the word of the Government was believed? Now nobody believes the Government. We have come to a stage when the people have lost confidence in the Government. That has been the result of the measures that you have taken to suppress the civil disobedience movement. The methods of brutality you are adopting have led the people to loose confidence in your good intentions. Nobody believes you on account of the measures you have adopted, that you are really going to do anything very real in the matter of constitutional development. By the measures you have been adopting, you are certainly not preparing a peaceful atmosphere. May I suggest, Sir, that if the Government really wishes to secure the confidence of the people, it is not by asking the same people who are committing excesses and who are responsible for carrying out the orders of the Government, to enquire into these excesses? Why not entrust such enquiries to District Judges or men who are not directly concerned with the Executive Administration? That is the only way by which you can establish confidence. You can never secure confidence in people by pursuing your present methods.

"I shall make one or two remarks about the 10 per cent cut in salaries which I have included in my cut motion. Why is the Police department excluded from the operation of this rule that is applied to the other departments? Are the Government officers whose salaries have been reduced by the 10 per cent, going to be disloyal to the Government? Are Collectors and Magistrates whose salaries have been reduced by 10 per cent, going to be disloyal? If you expect them to be loyal to you, why do you expect that anything untoward will happen in the case of the Police people? Are they people whom you cannot trust, whom you must bribe constantly to secure their loyalty? I do not see any reason why the Police department should be excluded from the 10 per cent cut.

"Sir, the measures the Government has adopted for repressing the civil disobedience movement, have ended in utter failure; it hopes by these methods to crush the civil disobedience movement. It will be disillusioned. If it will look round, it will see that the movement is spreading. May I ask the Government to return to methods of sanity, to follow methods of humanity and to obey its own laws? By doing

17th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

so, it will secure the co-operation of all law-abiding people, of those who do not believe in the civil disobedience movement. Apart from this, it will succeed in creating a peaceful atmosphere for the introduction of the coming Reforms; it will do so if it does not follow the methods at present followed. "

After Lunch (2-30 p. m.)

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" Mr. President, I think my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, has made it clear that we sitting on this side of the House do not support the civil disobedience movement and that we do feel that Law and Order must be kept, but there, I am afraid, we must part company with the hon. the Home Member, because keeping of Law and Order does not mean that excesses ought to be committed. A number of cases has been brought before this House and has also been brought before the notice of the Government that there is a feeling that excesses have been committed. To cite an example, I can only cite the case of Dr. Paton, but I do not want to push the matter further, except to say that it is rather curious that he was called a member of an unlawful assembly even though he himself has made it clear in his statement before the High Court that he went to the Rattan Bazaar only as a spectator and that he was asked to move and he moved to the other side of the road and yet he was set upon and beaten.

" Then there is the case of Mr. Khasa Subba Rao and Mr. O. P. Ramaswami about which I put a short notice question some time ago and repeated the question the other day, but the hon. the Home Member felt that he could not take short notice as the matter was still under investigation and that he could not say exactly what had happened. I would like to know now at least to-day, whether he has received the report of the Commissioner of Police, Madras, and what is the nature of that report? I believe the hon. Member used the word that the people had been ' severely beaten,' but when he was asked repeatedly whether in the opinion of the Commissioner the beating was excessive or not, he was not prepared to go further than what he said before, because he hid himself behind the fact that an enquiry had been ordered and that he did not want to judge the enquiry before it was finished. I want to ask him now whether that enquiry has been finished and what is the nature of the report. From all accounts I have heard and from the statement that Mr. Subba Rao himself made in Court when he was convicted of the offence of picketing it will be seen that the force used was really excessive. I do not think I can do better than read the statement of Mr. Subba Rao before the Presidency Magistrate. This was exactly what was stated by him and reported in the *Hindu* of the 12th March 1932:

'It was true that I was picketing opposite Messrs. Chellaram Gianchand. Inspector Currie did not come to me and ask my name or any questions. It was Sergeant Butler who came to us and asked us " Are you volunteers? " I said " Yes." He asked both of us to clear out. We refused. Then he and several other policemen that were present there belaboured us with canes. I began to lose sight of what happened to my companion because I felt a shower of blows on

[Dr. P. Subbarayan] [17th March 1932

me. The blows of Sergeant Butler were the severest of all and while others were beating in the ordinary way, he was beating with the knob of the cane. It is an absolute falsehood to say that when the Sergeant came there for the first time there was a crowd. Once the beating commenced a crowd did gather. It was seen at some distance from the scene of beating. A crowd came there to see the beating. It is the police beating that attracted the crowd. It was false to say that the crowd was disorderly or noisy. Traffic was not blocked. After beating me they left me at the other edge of the pavement in front of the shop. I sank down exhausted in a sitting posture. When I came to myself I found policemen in a bus standing at the other end of the road. I got up and walked back and picketed the shop again. The police came straight for me and beat me. There was no crowd. I do not complain about the blows nor about the severity. We expected them. But Sergeant Butler made an attempt to remove the cloth I was wearing and make me appear naked in the road. He actually stripped off my shirt and still I am waiting for the return of the same to keep it as a memento of the civilized police administration. I understand that walking naked in a street is an offence and if a police officer attempted to do this, I leave it to the court to deal with them.'

"That is exactly what was said by Mr. Subba Rao in his statement and I am sure the hon. the Home Member now possesses the report of the Commissioner of Police and he would see if the facts are as stated by Mr. Subba Rao. I am sure the hon. Gentlemen sitting on the other side will agree that this state of things ought to be put an end to and that Law and Order as I said may easily be made a bogey.

"I want to read to the House another statement, Mr. President, which appeared in the *Hindu* of the 10th February 1932 by Mr. Krishnaswami of Trichinopoly. That is what he stated:

'While I was enquiring one of them Mr. Krishna Rao, if Mr. Ramaswami's friends can bring him his meal to the lock-up, Mr. Ghulam Ali, Sub-Inspector, struck me from behind. I turned round and asked the striking officer why he struck me from behind. Accordingly, I went in and waited. A few minutes later, Mr. Subbayya entered and was brought near me. We both were given what Dr. Paton got, namely, first-hand information about police treatment. To be more explicit and exact, the three officers fell upon me, while three others looked to my friend. Mr. Ghulam Ali, Sub-Inspector, kicked me, spat at me and hit me on my face, while another Sub-Inspector hit me at the sides, and one Anglo-Indian officer continued to cut me with a cane from behind. I have still a few marks left on my body. It seemed a long time before they stopped and all along I thought of the one great man of our times and of his words. Hence I stood firm. When all this was over, we were enquired of our names and business, etc., and then we were sent to a room in custody. I only wish to add that I am not a member of any Congress organization and that I never attended any Congress meetings.'

"So, it will be seen, Mr. President, from the two statements that I have read out that whatever may be said, the public have to be satisfied that these excesses have not been committed and the only way by which satisfaction can be given to the public is by a judicial enquiry. I am sure the hon. the Home Member knows that unlawful assemblies are dispersed even in other civilized countries, but after such dispersal and excessive use of force, the Government of the country always take care to see that an enquiry is made to satisfy the public that no excessive force had been used and that only such sufficient amount of force had been used as to bring the unlawful assemblies into not committing the excesses which they might have committed. Therefore, I would like to ask the hon. Gentleman, the Home Member, whether he would be prepared to order an enquiry of that kind and satisfy the public. Of course, I can enumerate numbers of instances where such things have happened. It was my hon. Friend, Mr. Indrayya, sitting

17th March 1932] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

on the other side told me of an incident the other day, which would shock one's sense of humanity. He said that actually urine was poured into the mouth of one of these civil disobedience volunteers. I would like to ask the hon. the Home Member whether he would call this civilized administration. I am not making the statement of any pseudo-Congress man sitting on this side of the House, but I am making the statement of a very responsible member of the Justice party who sits on the other side of the House and he himself made the statement. I hear Mr. Pannirselvam say 'hear, hear'. I want to know whether he is going to support the hon. the Home Member. (Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam: 'We are responsible members.') Yes, you are responsible members of the Justice party and we on this side of the House also are just as responsible as the members of the other side, if not better. I would like to know whether the hon. Gentlemen sitting on the other side who have taken notice of these incidents and have reported even to strangers like me, would be prepared to stand by the statement and vote for this motion, because, whatever may be the feeling of the people inside this House, I can tell the hon. Gentlemen sitting opposite and hon. Friends sitting behind me, that this motion is brought to censure the administration of Police in this Province during the last few months. I am sure hon. Gentlemen will realize that whatever may be said there is really something rotten in the State of Denmark and it must be remedied and it is only in that sense, I think, my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, spoke and only in that sense I have followed him. I want to ask the hon. the Home Member who I know is as much concerned with constitutional development in this country as anyone on this side of the House, whether this is the way by which you are going to make the people of this Province and the country contented. As I said the other day, resentment is growing apace and whatever hon. Members may say, I can tell them that the resentment is spreading all round and that resentment had been largely due to the activities of the Police. I believe my hon. Friend stated that he still remains a friend of the Government. I am sure many people still do remain as friends of the Government, but if this sort of thing were to go on and we are going to get a stereotyped reply to which we are accustomed to from the hon. the Home Member, I am sure this resentment would grow apace and people who were themselves friends of the Government, though they may wish to be friends, will no longer like to call themselves friends outside, before the public, lest they should have to face the consequences of the resentment that is growing. I am not casting any personal reflection when I say that I have for the last 20 years believed strongly in British connexion and in British institutions and the very fact that I am having my sons educated in England stands guarantee to that. But, at the same time, I have begun to feel this, that as long as one knows that he is governed by another, whatever may be the personal and friendly feeling that may exist between that nation and ours, still when it comes to the question of withdrawing one's power, sentiment seems to come into play.

2-45 p.m. "The people begin to think 'Is this vast Empire going to be kept or is it slowly slipping out of their hands?' The feeling seems to be at least to-day that this vast Empire is slowly slipping out of their hands. I can tell the hon. Gentlemen that it is slowly slipping out of their hands not because of the civil disobedience movement or of the feeling in the country but because of their own actions. If really the Empire is going to be kept and India is going to be a contented partner in the Empire, it is time that these things began to be looked into and people were treated as civilized human beings and methods of administration are applied as are applied in other countries. The hon. Gentleman in charge of the Police administration is a great admirer of the British connexion—he is as great, if not a greater admirer than myself—and can contribute to that. If only he takes courage in both hands and is able to tell those whom he can advise that it is better that these things are put down, it is better that we hold an enquiry, it is better that we satisfy the sentiments and aspirations of the people of this land, it is better that we prove to them that if we kept Law and Order, it is because to make it easy for the future administration that is to come and that confidence can only be begotten if it is proved to the satisfaction of the masses at large that enquiries have been made and the steps that have been taken to put down the civil disobedience movement have been taken in an orderly and humane fashion and that humanitarian considerations have been applied and that incidents like the one quoted by my hon. Friend, Mr. Indrayya, are really excesses and such excesses are going to be punished and punished with a firm hand, then it will be for the hon. Gentleman to turn round and say 'I stood for the British connexion and I have proved by that connexion India is going to reap the advantage of belonging to the Great Commonwealth of Nations —a minor League of Nations—and in such minor League India can be a contented and honourable partner'. Such sentiments can only be put forward and implanted in the minds of the young people in this country only by holding proper enquiries and proving to the people at large that in the administration in difficult times—times of stress and trouble—even though they had behind them the whole mass of the population, the action that they had taken were taken in a humanitarian fashion. It is in that sense that I mean to censure the conduct of the Police and I appeal to both my hon. Friends behind me and the hon. Gentlemen opposite to vote for this motion not as a matter of censure on the hon. Gentleman who is sitting on that Bench to-day but to vindicate the proposition that we who are sitting in this Council are at least guaranteed a human and civilized system of administration. We are all going to be put to a test to-day and I hope that this Presidency will come out of that test in an honoured and honourable way. I think it was the Rt. hon. Gentleman the Secretary of State for India that said the other day in the House of Commons that the policy that they were adopting had been accepted by the Assembly and has never been questioned by any of the Provincial Councils and it is an answer that I want you to give him to-day as responsible men elected by responsible people to this House that even under a limited constitution

17th March 1932] [Dr. P. Subbarayan]

we here stand as the apostles of the people and vote for humanitarian and civilized methods of Government. By this vote we are going to prove whether we are really capable of governing ourselves, or the powers-that-be can always come behind us and will be able to get votes whatever may be the system and whatever may be the administrative methods they follow. We shall prove to the world at large that we are capable of managing our own affairs and such capacity can only be proved to the world at large when we prove that we are not going to stand any nonsense, we are not going to stand methods which can only be described as barbarous. It is in that sense, Mr. President, that I appeal to the hon. Members sitting behind me and the hon. Gentlemen opposite to vote for this motion. If we do vote, I want to tell them it is not a censure on my hon. Friend, the Gentleman, sitting opposite. It is only a censure on the administration. What can he do, situated as he is, in the Reserved Half? He has got to follow principles and I am sure he has neither got the courage nor the wisdom that my hon. Friend, the late Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar, whose name will always be revered showed in resigning his appointment when he found that his methods cannot be carried out. (Hear, hear.) It is in that sense that I appeal to my hon. Friends behind me and on the other side to vote for this motion and in voting for it we will not really disgrace ourselves." (Applause.)

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am in a very unfortunate position now, when I follow a speech full of emotion and of sentiment and at the same time without much substance. I was taken aback that the hon. Member for Salem Landholders (Dr. P. Subbarayan: 'South Central Landholders')—I stand corrected, thank you very much—Dr. Subbarayan who represents the South Central Landholders has thought it fit that the Police administration should be censured. I have very anxiously and carefully listened to the platitudes and appeals that fell from the hon. Member—words, words, but I have not been able to find anything to substantiate the charge which has been so vehemently levelled against the administration of Law and Order in this Province. (Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: 'Please come to substance yourself.') I have known Mr. Hameed Khan and I know if there is one thing I have to say just now, it is I consider that such foolish interruptions are quite unnecessary. We are talking about a very serious matter. I want hon. Members to remember their responsibility for the maintenance of Law and Order in the districts and in the rural areas. Is it not part of the duty of all of us all to see that every man's right has to be protected, that no man's rights and freedom are interfered with and that none shall be tyrannized or intimidated in the pursuit of one's lawful business. When any person or any body of persons under a political guise say to me 'You shall not do this; you shall not wear this; you shall not sell this or purchase that article'; then I defend myself and I may also claim to be protected from such a tyrannical body and appeal to the constituted authority, namely, the Police for protection. The hon. Member, the

[Sir A. P. Patro] [17th March 1932

Leader of the Opposition, is a fluent speaker and therefore has necessarily avoided a reference to this aspect of the matter; but merely appealed to humane sentimental considerations. When one has got a civic right to do a certain thing, it does not lie in the hands of any other person to bring pressure on him not to do it and penalize him. Sir, Boycott is a euphemism for tyranny and intimidation. What was the state of the country in the month of December last? If no protection be given to the citizens of the country, if sufficient extraordinary power is not vested in the Government to carry on the Government during most serious troubles, there would be chaos; such a protection has been rendered to the country by the Ordinances that have been promulgated since the resumption of the civil disobedience movement. I wonder, Sir, what would have been the position of the hon. Member who spoke before me so eloquently if that has not been done. I am glad that like a wise person he has realized that Ordinances and Regulations are necessary to meet emergencies. My hon. Friend, Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, pointed out that there had been excesses and abuses of powers and that such things have to be rectified. What is the suggestion they make towards this end? A public enquiry. They want that a public commission should enquire into the conduct of the Police so that all the Congress world may know that justice had been vindicated. That should not be the policy of a practical statesman. If you say that there is abuse and excesses have been committed and if you have got any specific case within your knowledge, have you taken any measures to say . . . "

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" Mr. President, on a point of personal explanation, may I say that what I actually meant was that where excesses were brought to the notice of the Government, they ought to hold a public enquiry so that the public may be satisfied that there were no excesses."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" That apart, Sir, when I am tyrannized by picketers or by the boycotters, I have a right to defend myself or appeal to the constituted authority to defend me. Granting
1. these two propositions it follows that the Police have done nothing wrong in the matter. For, on the one hand, from time to time a warning has been issued to the people that Regulations and certain Ordinances have been issued declaring the doing of certain things to be illegal and punishable under law. Now, when this thing has been done and in spite of it if people commit those acts, then may I ask who could protect them against law being enforced?

" The next question that arises then is whether the treatment that is meted out to the breakers of law is in any way out of proportion to the offences committed. That is the real question, and in this I join hands with Dr. Subbarayan and say that I do not accept any of the excesses and abuses of power that have been committed by the constituted authorities. I condemn the Police officers if they have deliberately used force more than is necessary. But I cannot agree with him and his party when no case has been made out so far for the appointment of a public and open commission of enquiry. That is the point where

17th March 1932] [Sir A. P. Patro]

we join issue. There have been no particular cases of excessive force and abuse of power brought before this House. And if any particular case is cited, Government would only be too glad to inquire into it and punish those found guilty.

"Then, Sir, may I ask what steps have these people taken to see that these Regulations and Ordinances are not violated? May I know what constitutional measures they adopted? When they have not done that, I wonder how they can complain of excesses and how they can claim a public inquiry to be constituted? Therefore, my point of view is, when they have not done this, it is not practical statesmanship to demand a public inquiry. What will happen is that the want of faith in Government and the sympathy towards the movement will grow and the destructive agencies will become rampant in the country. Therefore I wish that all this eloquence of my Friend Dr. Subbarayan, and the eloquence of my Friend from the City of Madras who will follow me, is turned towards dissuading these law-breakers from pursuing their illegal acts; if they turn their activities towards this constructive work then they would be doing a great service to the country in helping the restoration of law and order. But if, on the other hand, they remain sulky and sullen and take no action to dissuade people from their destructive activities, then they have no voice, if those law-breakers are caught in the clutches of law. And further they must remember that the arm of law is long, is very very long enough to reach those who are now behind the scene and who put up only some striplings and unfortunate women also. So, I repeat, it will be a real and noble and patriotic service if every one of these people take a constructive step instead of adopting a destructive one. I agree with Dr. Subbarayan when he says that he wants peace in the country, for no one is interested to make law and order a bogey. For the policy of Government in combating this civil disobedience movement has been to maintain law and order and create peace in the country. But you say that the civil disobedience movement has been started to gain freedom. Do you think that this will bring us freedom? (Several voices: 'Yes'.) Yes, this is a matter in which there is difference of opinion among Members of this House. So I would appeal to all sides of this House that we are on the eve of a great constitutional change, and so what is required of all of us is that all parties and that all sections should co-operate in the matter of creating an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity so that this work may be carried on undisturbed. It may be there are differences in detail, it may be that a certain section here and a certain section there may take objection and may differ; but the whole country is determined and is unanimous that full freedom should be given to this country. If this is accepted, then it is the bounden duty of every citizen of this land to join hands and work together to maintain law and order.

"One word more, Mr. President. While I say that the constitutional reforms are an essential part of the work of the Government, at the same time I want to make it clear that it should not be left to Government alone to work it; for, unless all shades of opinion in the

[Sir A. P. Patro] [17th March 1932

country are present there, any Constitution that might be framed would be incomplete. I quite agree that the co-operation of one of the largest parties in the country is necessary to build the solid structure of permanent Constitutional edifice. It is on this ground that I make this fervent appeal to all sides of the House to join together, and to turn their eloquence in doing substantial constructive work, namely, to bring about peace and tranquillity in the country. Government must seek to remedy root causes of unrest.

"I ask the House to realize that this is the supreme hour, a supreme test, this is the supreme hour of test of our capacity—political capacity—to stand up to our rights of freedom. Therefore the motion before the House is not a censure on the Police as it is a test of our right and capacity for freedom. And as regards the Police themselves they had to undergo a period of severe trial and they have been very marvellously patient and they have marvellously worked together and they have stood a test which no civilized country has till now witnessed. They themselves have suffered untold sufferings, and in some parts of the country some Police officers also were murdered: and all these testify to their great loyalty and sense of duty and of service and thus at a very great cost they have been defending our rights. You say that the Police are guilty of excessive use of force, and unless you bring a particular case and say here they have erred I don't think we would be justified in meeting your demand for an inquiry. To say generally that the policy of Police has been one of excessive use of force is not just and reasonable."

* Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Mr. President, Sir, it is a notorious fact that Sir Patro is always long in his speech and little in sense. I see he is paraphrasing that speech delivered by Mr. James the other day."

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"I do not know what that speech is." (Laughter.)

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"Even the paraphrase is so ill-tuned and so graceless. Sir, I take him to be the spokesman of the Justice Party. (The hon. Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar and some members of the Ministerial Party: 'No.') (Laughter.) I am glad they say 'No.' He is disowned by the party for whom he so vehemently spoke. I am glad the Justice Party does not endorse the sentiments expressed by him. (Some members of Ministerialist Party: 'We endorse.') I see there is difference of opinion between the Ministers and their followers.

"Well, Sir, whatever may be the domestic differences and disputes between the members of the Justice Party and the Ministers of the Justice Party with their super-leader (laughter) it is immaterial now. (Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar: 'I don't agree with what Sir Patro said.' Laughter.) Mr. President, the occasion is far too serious for laughter. Sir Patro has built up a case in order to demolish it. It is not our case that the civil disobedience movement ought not to be fought

17th March 1932] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

against by Government. It is not our case that Government should not execute all lawful measures to suppress the civil disobedience movement. The civil disobedience movement is proclaimed to be a fight against this Government. Therefore, the Government is entitled to fight the civil disobedience movement. Nobody put up any other case than that. I wonder why all this eloquence, all this time, should be wasted on that part of the case. What we are complaining of is about the Police excesses. I ask if there is any hon. Member in this House who would challenge me when I say that there have been Police excesses in the land. I shall name one hon. Member after another who has spoken to me in private complaining about Police excessses, saying "Here are Police excesses in my district, in my taluk, in my village," sitting on those Benches opposite. Can Mr. Indraiah deny that he did not complain to me how on a volunteer urine was poured ? Can Mr. Sundara Rao Nayudu say (laughter) that he was not shocked about the Police excesses committed in the City of Madras ? Can Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar deny that he did not complain about the Police excesses in Coimbatore? (Laughter.) Did not Mr. Venkataramayya speak in this House charging the Police of having used excessive force ? What we are complaining is about the excessive use of force. What we want, what every hon. Member of this House wants, is that Government should hold an inquiry, an impartial inquiry, and book the offenders. It does not reflect any credit upon Government if they merely forwarded these complaints to the District Magistrates for so-called inquiries and then repeat their result on the floor of this House.

"I do not think it will satisfy the inner conscience of the hon. Member himself that these enquiries are real enquiries and the answers given are true. What should be the purpose of our charging the Police and harassing the Police ? Is our duty time and again to draw attention to this cruelty and oppression a pleasant task ? It is not. Though you are sitting on those Benches you know that excesses are committed. You do not want to admit them. You need not admit; but punish them and stop them. Then you will be justified in saying that you are doing everything lawful to suppress the civil disobedience movement. Repression, cruelty and oppression are not new to India. India has had Rakshasas and Demons and invasions of Nadir Shah and Tamerline. But I do not think that repression was going on month after month. You cannot compare the present oppression with those our ancestors had had. I ask you to remember that they had at least the courage to admit that they did those things knowingly and deliberately. There was no sneakishness and there was no dishonesty. They did not explain away that the people themselves cut their own throats. I want this Government who give out their orders to courageously own these cruelties and say, 'Yes, we are going to fight the civil disobedience movement in the same spirit.' That I can understand. But no, you do not do that. You cover yourself under the bush. You speak falsehoods one after another and then say Police have not committed excesses. Is it fair ? Are you treating the Members of Council fairly ? Question after question was put on the alleged

[*Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti*] [17th March 1932

excesses and the Home Member used to say, 'Well, if further particulars are placed into my hands we will enquire.' What we are entitled to do as Members of Council is to put a question. When a Member puts a question, he does take some responsibility for the accuracy of the facts. He does not pick any statement that is current in the streets. He tries to understand whether there is some truth in it. Then he asks a question. That itself is sufficient to pursue the enquiry. The enquiry must be of the nature of taking evidence from the aggrieved persons to find out whether these things have happened. Now nearly a month ago this charge was made. What did the hon. the Home Member do? Did *he call for the papers? Did he set up any officer to enquire into these* things? Will any Government worth its name follow this method in treating its worst enemy? Can anybody sitting on that side justify that action? If that is so, and if Government cannot listen to your representations, what is it that you have got to do? You need not necessarily vote money for this purpose. The only work you have got to do is to record your objection, your emphatic objection against it. It does not require much sacrifice on our part, when we do not endorse this policy, when you honestly believe that it ought not to be the policy, that excesses must not be committed. Even Sir Patro would not say that excess should be tolerated. He only tries to hide in by dissembling arguments that if they had been brought to the notice of Government they would have made enquiries. They have been making enquiries for the past one year. Sir, during the last Budget debate, when a sort of truce was running, when a compact was come to between Government and the Congress and when naturally good feeling existed we responded to the call of the Home Member to forget and forgive and withdrew the cut motion. But what has been the result? Did he *pursue the enquiries?* We requested him to transfer Musthafa Ali Khan who has been an evil and a great harm in the district, who has been doing barbarous acts which no civilized man can conceive. What have you done? You have again appealed against the acquittal in Vadapalle Riots case even against the advice of the Advocate-General. Is it a fair way of doing things? Sir, I am constrained to speak in this tone not in order to provoke wrath and ire in your hearts. I am appealing with bended knees. Let us know where we stand. How long is this to go on? I can understand lawful methods. You consider the Ordinances are laws. There is a difference of opinion. Execute by all means all those laws. You ought not to persecute people; you ought not to harass them; you ought not to heap indignities and humiliations. Sir Patro asked, why should people court trouble? May I ask him, 'why should you go to the Round Table Conference?' It is the same madness for public service that impelled the Congress people to go to jail. It was for you to enjoy the soft cushions of the Round Table. It is the same madness that has impelled us to voice their feelings, which prevented us from sitting in our homes and doing our business. Sir, it was mere madness and I do not think Sir Patro would like that spirit to be killed. After all we have to serve the public also. There are no doubt our relations, near and dear, in the Police. But we cannot be

17th March 1932] [Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti]

always pleading for them. We have also to plead for the public. (Mr. N. Siva Raj: 'Madness in Police.') I agree. But there are people who can pull them from the madness. And the people behind the Treasury Bench are there to pull them. Don't allow these mad dogs, don't allow these mad dogs to bite and injure you and others. Sir, there are numerous instances where ladies were treated most savagely. It would appal any decent society. But even though these statements appeared in the Press, no action was taken to put them down. Well, the Government issued a Communiqué that the 'Buy Indian League' is not a proscribed association. Their activities have their benediction. What did happen in Narasapur? What is still going on? What has Mr. Indrian to say about it? Is he still going to vote against the motion? We cannot be cheating the electorate and the public any longer. It is not a personal insult to the Home Member. After all everything in the world has an end. Even the longest road has an end. Even the term of office of the hon. Home Member must have an end. It may be Sir Patro may succeed. There is God who is witnessing all our actions. I appeal to your better sense. (A voice: 'Why not sermon?') If Venkatachalam Chetti will succeed, I may promise a better state of affairs. (Hear, hear.) (Mr. F. E. James: 'If offered.') Therefore I appeal to the hon. the Home Member to view this matter seriously and not to allow this canker of dissatisfaction to grow. People are being tortured and decent people cannot come out into streets. People to-day in East Godavari are afraid that their houses will be set fire to. I implore the hon. the Home Member to see that an officer who has made himself so thoroughly obnoxious to a locality ought not to be allowed to continue both in his own interest and in the interests of the public of the district. I expect the representatives of the district would have privately mentioned this matter. But is mere mention of it in a public body going to stiffen the Government from taking away that officer from that place? I have also tried to tell him privately and appealed to him to carry out the suggestion. But beyond merely showing a gesture he is not capable of doing any constructive work. It may be that he is quite helpless. Rightly or wrongly you made yourselves responsible for this tyranny. This is an unsatisfactory state of affairs. Sir Patro spoke of tyranny. Whose tyranny is it now? It is the tyranny of the Police. I do not think even Government is responsible. Government have issued certain instructions. These misguided officers have overstepped the limits. Government are unable to hold them within bounds. The cut motion is not going to endanger the safety and the position of the hon. the Home Member. It is but a censure against the policy of excessive repression which is being carried on. If those gentlemen who have really seen the extravagances are to be told to stay away they have to act in conformity with the dictates of their conscience, though, after all, this is the least sacrifice that they can do."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. President, Sir, I believe there is hardly one on this side of the House who is less anxious than the hon. the Home Member for the maintenance of law and order

in the country in general and in the Province in particular; nor is there one here who does not recognize the necessity for the maintenance of a Police force, a Police force which is honest, which is efficient, which commands the confidence of the public and which evokes the respect of the people and I also believe that there is nothing which is more calculated to detract from that estimation and respect which the Police ought to command than abuses and excesses on the part of the Police. I stand here not to say that there have not been abuses, or that there have not been excesses—I can myself speak on credible information furnished to me of abuses here and abuses there—I may state also on reliable information that a station-house officer in a remote village or a head constable in another remote corner of the country taking advantage of the Ordinances is really tyrannizing over the people; and I might also admit that there have been excesses in putting down this civil disobedience movement and I would only appeal to the hon. the Home Member, and unlike the Opposition I have not the least doubt that he will take the necessary measures when facts and figures are furnished to him. May I point out respectfully that the best method of maintaining and keeping up that respect and that regard which is due to the Police is to deal ruthlessly with the Police officers who have misused their powers or committed excesses? (Hear, hear from Opposition Benches.) And speaking of excesses may I also point out that there are excesses and excesses—excesses due to mistake of judgment and excesses born of the intoxication of power? Excesses of the latter kind I do certainly think need putting down with a strong hand on the part of the Government. (Hear, hear.) There are other excesses, excesses due to error of judgment, which deserve a separate treatment altogether. In all times and under all circumstances, Sir, I believe that if there is one department of the Government, the officials of which are always placed in a difficult situation, it is the Police department; and that department to-day has to work under circumstances very much more difficult than usual. What is the situation that obtains to-day in the country? Thanks to that great man, to whom the hon. the Leader of the Opposition paid undiluted adulation yesterday, Mr. Gandhi, whose saintliness it is not my purpose to question, but whose patriotism and nationalism are of that narrow type which is calculated in terms of that section of caste Hindus who pay obeisance to the Congress and its dictator, the forces of lawlessness and disorder have been let loose on land. He has set afoot the campaign of civil disobedience movement, of non-co-operation and of peaceful picketing. I do not for a moment question his motives or his intentions. But what is the effect of the movement he has set on foot? He has set in motion non-violent non-co-operation. Have we got in the land to-day such a thing as non-violent non-co-operation? We have got violent co-operation from the pseudo Congressmen, who have come into the Councils, and violent non-co-operation from the real Congressites who have not come into the Councils. It is civil disobedience that we have to-day or uncivil defiance that is now running mad in the land? (A voice from the Opposition: 'What do you mean?') I will explain what I mean. You

17th March 1932] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

are talking of peaceful picketing. I can speak with some experience of what obtains in the interior. There is picketing. May I say that it is anything but peaceful? (Opposition: 'Caused by whom?') I am coming to that. Who are the people you enlist as volunteers to do this peaceful picketing? Let hon. Members opposite form themselves, as Sir Patro said, into a band of volunteers and go out to disobey the laws in a civil and polite manner. As a matter of fact, who are the volunteers that are now formed into a band to disobey the laws? Ninety-nine out of hundred of them are the riff-raffs of society, people who have no idea of what patriotism is, people who have no means of livelihood excepting the pittance of a few rupees got from the Congress and who if they are out of the volunteer band will go to swell the number of unemployed."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" On a point of order. Is it open to the hon. Member from Tanjore to talk about persons who are not here to defend themselves and call them riff-raffs and all that? "

* The hon. the President:—" It is no point of order at all."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" My statement has been questioned. I shall make a statement of fact, a fact which came to my notice just a few days ago. There is a village called Tirukalavur in Tanjore district, a village which ought to be familiar to the Members sitting opposite. It is the native village of Mr. Pantulu Ayyar. Recently there was picketing of a toddy shop; there were two volunteers who were arrested; the matter came before the Sessions Court. I had occasion to go through the records. Curiously enough, in that particular case, the two accused were tried separately, each accused being the defence witness for the other. One of them was of an absolutely unknown antecedents, imported from Madura district, and the other a native of my own district. And this is his evidence: 'I am a farm-servant of Mr. Pantulu Ayyar, Tanjore District Congress Committee President.' (He was an Adi-Dravida.) 'I was elected by my master.' For what reason? 'Because I happened to be the biggest drunkard of the village.' (Laughter.) That is his evidence. 'Because I have given it up, Mr. Pantulu Ayyar wanted to hold me up before the world as a model for the rest to follow.' That is reasonable. The third reason why he was elected by Mr. Pantulu Ayyar—that is the most curious and that is the one on which I hope to substantiate my statement that your band of volunteers consist of riff-raffs. He said 'I was the biggest fighter in the village, breaking heads all round, and because of the fear driven into the heart of every villager, my presence in the front of the toddy shop would scare away the villagers. That was why I was elected by the President of the District Congress Committee.' That is the type of recruits whom you take. After that, have you got any reason to legitimately complain if the Police have to deal with them in the manner they do now? After all, Policemen are also human beings, and Policemen come from the lower ranks of the society and are men without much culture. In the nature of things, it is not possible for the Government to recruit as constables men who are

[Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam] [17th March 1932

graduates or even S.S.L.Cs. and people with comparatively little education, low culture, people who belong to the lower strata of society have perforce to be recruited. That is in the nature of things inevitable. And these people,—I am talking of the ordinary Policeman and head constable—these people are placed in the most difficult situation, under the most provocative circumstances. Another type of civil disobedience or peaceful picketing came to my notice. It was the case of a vakil's clerk's clerk whose monthly salary was between Rs. 7-8-0 and Rs. 10. He enlisted himself as a Congress volunteer and went out as peaceful picketer. What does he do? The man goes and says, '*You must give up drink.*' *Of course Mahatma Gandhi has said* he must be peaceful. And this man puts up his hand and says '*I ask you not to go and drink.*' *The next sentence is* '*If you go and drink* you will be doing an act equivalent to—' something; well. I cannot *bring myself to pronounce those words in this Assembly.* That is on evidence. These are the sort of peaceful picketers you have. (Opposition: '*That is the Police evidence.*') Police evidence and *witnesses*' evidence. The hon. Member from the City of Madras appears to know very much more about Police methods. As a public prosecutor, I have had opportunities of examining Police evidence. I am not here advocating for the Police nor giving them a certificate. Of course, there are black sheep among them as well. You are here as responsible Legislators and your criticism of the actions of the Government ought to take a reasonable and helpful attitude. You ought to realize that there is one department, the Police department, working under the most trying circumstances, in a most difficult situation: and it is up to us as sponsors of the real people and as their responsible representatives to give the officers and servants of the Government the feeling that when they do their duty they would have our support. May I ask the hon. Member representing the city of Madras and the other hon. Members opposite if on any one single occasion they had one good word to say of the Police? (Opposition: 'Certainly.') It is some relief to my feeling to know that the Opposition has given a word of encouragement to the Police at least occasionally. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: 'On very few occasions, because their record is so bad.') Our revered leader and friend Sir Patro, has admitted that there have been excesses, that there have been abuses and they ought to be put down ruthlessly and mercilessly. (Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti: 'Certainly.') There has not been given a single instance where the Opposition did really make out a case. Reading out from newspapers is not making out a case; putting interpellations on information furnished by X, Y or Z, however much you may trust in his word, is not proving a case. I have myself had information sometimes, but I have not put in interpellations for this reason that I have not satisfied myself about the accuracy of it. That is where the difference comes in between myself and the hon. Member for the city of Madras. He does not know the Evidence Act, he does not know what it is to make out a case, he does not know that any information furnished by X, Y or Z is not evidence. Therefore, Sir, mere interpellations, mere speeches—even fiery speeches—of the hon. Member for the City of Madras,

17th March 1932] [Mr. A. T. Pannirselvam]

do not make out a case. That there are in general terms excesses is obvious. As I have said, in the nature of things, we do not expect *policemen to be all angels and saints*; there are varying degrees of honesty among them as there is bound to be everywhere, not excluding this House. (Laughter.) There may be people who have no control over themselves and let themselves go when they are under provocation."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" On a point of order, Sir, I would like you to give us a ruling on the remark of the hon. Member that there are varying degrees of honesty even in this House. Is the hon. Member allowed to say that? "

* The hon. the President:—" *Will the hon. Member repeat what he said?* " 8—p.m.

* Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam:—" If I remember right—I have no notes—I said this: ' that there are bound to be varying degrees of honesty in the Police force as it is bound to be everywhere else in the world, not excluding this House . . .' (A voice: ' That is wrong.')

" If that was wrong, I withdraw it and I will admit that we are all *equally* honest. (Laughter.) I have to state facts as they are. As I said there is provocation, unquestionable provocation, from various sides, that provocation mostly being due to the fact that hon. Members opposite and their friends are anxious to get hold of anybody they can, provided the number of their volunteers is increased. If they can raise a little fund it is distributed among these volunteers and if anything remains after distribution it is being confiscated by the Government. But what is distributed to these volunteers unfortunately cannot be confiscated. All that I would say is, let the Opposition and the Members who are in sympathy with the Congress disband their present volunteers and form a set of volunteers about whose honesty we could be sure as about the honesty of the Members of this House, give them training in the Ashramam at Sabarmati if they like and make them all really peaceful picketers of a really ' Civil ' Disobedience Movement . . . (A voice: ' Why don't you do it?')

" Sir, I do not believe in it and I am not for paying lip sympathy to the Civil Disobedience Movement nor do I believe in mere lip protestations against the Civil Disobedience Movement as my hon. Friends opposite are doing. If Members are in sympathy with the Civil Disobedience Movement let them honestly and openly come forth and do that. In any case, let them give us the assurance that we, the peaceful citizens, who wish to carry on our ordinary avocations of life will not unnecessarily be interfered with by these volunteers. If they give us that assurance, not merely an assurance, but if your band is of such a character that we may ourselves feel confident in us that they will not in any way interfere with our activities . . ."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" On a point of order, Sir. Whenever he refers to the volunteers he says ' your band.' They are no more of our band . . . "

[17th March 1932

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is no point of order."

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM :—" Hon. Members are aware that whatever I say in this House is addressed to you, Sir.

" Sir, let them have that peaceful band and if then we find the Police molesting them, I assure my hon. Friends on the other side—of course I am not competent to speak on behalf of the party but still I hope I am reflecting the feelings of the Members on this side of the House—that we shall join with them in censuring the hon. the Home Member.

" But at present, as the result of the activities of the Civil Disobedience Movement, there is a constant danger of breach of public peace and peaceful citizens cannot go about their ordinary avocations of life in safety. Sometimes they are unable to get even the necessaries of life. This is not the time, if there be any time at all, for condemning the Police in these unqualified terms. For these reasons and in spite of the assurance given to us that this was no censure motion on the hon. the Home Member but merely a criticism of the acts of the Police, we, on this side of the House, are not prepared to walk into the parlour of the Opposition."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, I am very glad we have been able to hear to-day both sides of this question. I would just like to make a statement with regard to the policy that we have been pursuing in connexion with this destructive Civil Disobedience Movement. The situation with which the Government are confronted is this: early in January the leaders of the Civil Disobedience Movement chose to declare war on the Government and appointed 'Dictators' and 'War Councils' to carry on their campaign. No less than 111 associations in all parts of the Presidency have been declared unlawful in consequence of some overt act in furtherance of the Civil Disobedience. To meet this serious challenge to Law and Order, it was necessary for the Government to employ all the forces at their command and make use of all the powers with which the Law has equipped them in order to prevent a breakdown of the machinery of orderly Government.

" In the initial stages the leaders of the Civil Disobedience party attempted to organize a mass movement against the Government. When this failed, owing to the lack of response from the bulk of the population and the prompt counter measures of the Government, other and more insidious methods of attack were adopted.

" The first of these is a campaign of misrepresentation mainly through the medium of the Press organized with the deliberate intention of discrediting the officers of Government and so paralysing the administration. This campaign has been conducted with virulence and persistence regardless of truth or decency. Where the allegations have been in any way definite and so capable of proof or disproof investigation has been made with a view to take such action as may be necessary if they are true or to contradict them when they are false. No less than 82 such

17th March 1932] [Sir Mahomed Usman]

investigations have been made. In some cases the allegations have proved to be mere inventions without any foundation of truth and in other cases the real facts have been grossly exaggerated or distorted. From the enquiry made, the Government find that the bulk of these false allegations emanate from an irresponsible section of the Press which is definitely in sympathy with Civil Disobedience and make use of the agents of the Civil Disobedience Movement in the mufassal to supply false or exaggerated accounts of incidents. Such of the allegations as have attracted public attention have been answered in Press Communiqués or on the floor of the House in reply to questions. Another point requiring special notice is the fact that in very few cases has any kind of complaint been made to the Magistrates on the spot. The authors of maliciously false stories prefer to hide their identity under the guise of 'special correspondents' for fear that they may suffer the consequences of giving false information.

"The second weapon of the Civil Disobedience party is picketing. 'Peaceful picketing' is the catchword of Civil Disobedience, but no picketing can be called peaceful which is a breach of the Law, and the real object of which is not the promotion of 'Swadeshi' enterprise, but the deliberate provocation of disorder. Picketers take up their position outside shops in busy thoroughfares with the intention of attracting a crowd. By the time the Police arrive on the scene a crowd has generally collected. Some of the crowd may be mere spectators but others may be sympathizers with Civil Disobedience or hooligans ready to take advantage of the situation. The only way the Police can distinguish between innocent spectators and breakers of the law is to call upon the crowd to disperse. It is the duty of all law-abiding citizens at once to dissociate themselves from the crowd. Those who remain must be presumed to be abetting a breach of the law and are liable to be forcibly dispersed. Quick dispersal has been found by experience to be the most effective method of dealing with the situation, for the longer a crowd remains the greater the danger of its getting out of hand and greater the difficulty of dispersing it. Prompt and vigorous action at the outset presents far more serious consequences and the Government consider that this policy has been justified by the results. Actually since the outbreak of Civil Disobedience Movement there have been two incidents only in which there has been loss of life or serious injury. So far as the Government are aware, there have been only two fatalities, while the number of persons seriously injured is four. These figures in themselves are a clear disproof of the charge that the Police habitually use excessive force in preventing the commission of offences and in dispersing unlawful assemblies. The Standing Orders of the Police and the special instructions issued from time to time by the Government can leave no doubt that excessive force is not to be used. What amount of force is sufficient for each individual case must necessarily be a matter for the discretion of the officer on the spot. Individual officers are liable to make mistakes or commit errors of judgment and in the heat of a struggle there is always the danger that a

[Sir Mahomed Usman] [17th March 1932

chance blow may cause more injury than was intended. Such accidents are inevitable and the responsibility for them rests upon the persons who have provoked disorder by a deliberate defiance of the law. But the Government deny that there has been any general deliberate breach of instructions on the part of the Police or any vindictive use of excessive force.

" The Government are confident that Police Officers, from the Inspector-General downwards, are doing their best to maintain strict discipline in the force and will never countenance unlawful retaliation however great the provocation. Every constable is aware that his conduct is liable to be called into question if he exceeds his instructions and that disciplinary action will be taken if he has deliberately made use of force in excess of what is reasonable.

" Such is the situation with which the Government are confronted and such are the measures which they have found it necessary to adopt to meet the challenge to Law and Order thrown down by the Civil Disobedience party. So long as picketing continues to be the symbol of Civil Disobedience and the embodiment of the spirit of lawlessness, so long will the Government suppress its manifestations. But the suppression of unlawful picketing in no way implies hostility to legitimate aspirations for the promotion of Indian commercial enterprise. A Press Communiqué has been already issued welcoming the establishment of a ' Buy Indian League ' as a sign that responsible leaders are making a serious effort to divert dangerous activities into lawful channels. The cessation of picketing will free the league at the outset from what must obviously be a source of embarrassment, while the continuance of picketing will be a clear exposure of the real object of the Civil Disobedience leaders which is not the promotion of Swadeshi enterprise but is the deliberate obstruction of orderly, constitutional progress.

" Sir, the other day an hon. Member of the Opposition put a supplementary question on Dr. Paton's case. I then said that it was not possible to get all the facts connected with the case by supplementary questions. I therefore think that I should make a statement of the case to-day.

" The facts of the case are that Dr. Paton visited the area where picketing was going on and, according to his own statement after having been warned by the Police to leave the area, he did so for a short distance and immediately returned to it. His indiscreet conduct not unnaturally led the Police to believe that he was personally taking part in picketing or assisting picketers. In the light of subsequent enquiry and information received through the Collector of North Arcot, the Government arrived at the conclusion that, however suspicious Dr. Paton's actions were, his intention was not to picket or assist picketing and that the Police acted under a misunderstanding in dealing with him. The Government had also reason to think that Dr. Paton who had left Madras for Tiruppattur was likely to remain in Tiruppattur and not take any part in politics.

17th March 1932] [Sir Mahomed Usman]

"The Commissioner of Police therefore withdrew the case with the approval of this Government. The general policy of the Government in regard to all such cases is to withdraw the prosecution when they are satisfied that the person concerned is not likely to take any further part in Civil Disobedience unless the person has taken an active or prominent part in the movement. In the circumstances of Dr. Paton's case, the Government consider that withdrawal of the prosecution was the right course, since there was reason to believe that Dr. Paton had no intention of taking part in any illegal form of activity connected with Civil Disobedience.

"Then certain cases were brought to my notice the other day on which the Government were asked to take some action. With regard to Mr. Dodwell's case, it was suggested that I should send the *thali* and the Press Communique containing Mr. Dodwell's apology to Mrs. Prabhu. I have written a letter to the Inspector-General of Prisons to let the Government know whether Mrs. Prabhu knew that an apology has been offered by Mr. Dodwell, and if she did not know, to furnish her with a copy of the Press Communiqué and ask her whether she would be prepared to accept the *thali*. With regard to the case of O. P. Ramaswami and K. Subba Rao, we have received a report from the Commissioner of Police who made an enquiry into the matter. In the meantime certain statements were made in the Magistrate's court by the two accused. Government think that before passing final orders they should peruse the judgment and the records in the case. In the meanwhile the Inspector of Police concerned has been transferred by the Commissioner of Police."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"On his application?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"He seems to have been transferred on his own application."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think it is fair to me that I should be interrupted like this.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, said that wearers of Khadi had been beaten. I would ask him to give definite information on the point. My complaint has always been that statements of this sort are made without giving me any definite information. If my hon. Friend tells me the name of the person who is beaten, the place where he was beaten and so on, I am prepared to make a thorough enquiry into the matter. As regards the pouring of urine into a volunteer's mouth, it was mentioned by Mr. Indraiah during question time, and I immediately told him that I was prepared to make enquiries if he would give me some details about the matter. Even in connexion with the General Discussion of the Budget I said that I was thoroughly prepared to enquire into the matter if definite information was given to me. Till now no information has reached me. I understand that my hon. Friend intends to do so now."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Here is the statement of the persons given in writing."

[17th March 1932

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Is it about the same case I am referring to? "

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Yes."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Now that the complaint has been handed to me, I shall make enquiries and see what I can do in the matter.

" I would just like to refer to the speech made by my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, who has had great experience of public life and has distinguished himself in various ways. Naturally I attach the greatest importance to the speech he delivered today on the floor of this House. But my only regret is that my hon. Friends, Dr. Subbarayan and Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, who have also been Ministers like him have gained no wisdom by their experience. Again, my hon. Friend, Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti began to denounce the Police in his usual tone without giving any facts or figures. It was mostly much ado about nothing. On the other hand there was a beautiful contrast in the speech of Mr. Pannirselvam who spoke so brilliantly today and brought before me a number of facts."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, on a point of order, may I ask whether this is the occasion for giving certificates to Members of the House? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The hon. Member cannot say anything against the certificates that are given to hon. Members of this House."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" If we give any certificates to anybody we do it in a gentlemanly manner.

" If hon. Members before making allegations against the Police give me definite information about Police excesses, I am thoroughly prepared to make an investigation and see what I can do.

" In conclusion, Sir, let me say I welcome this debate this evening for more than one reason. For we have had an opportunity of hearing some of the distinguished moderates who are Members of this Council and their views in condemnation of the Civil Disobedience Movement. First of all my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, has condemned the movement in no uncertain terms. My hon. Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, followed suit. The other day in bringing the General Discussion of the Budget to a close, my hon. Colleague Mr. Rajan condemned the Civil Disobedience Movement. Yesterday again the hon. the Chief Minister who leads the biggest party in this House, condemned the Civil Disobedience Movement and condemned the Opposition. I hope therefore that the Legislative Council will today mercilessly reject the cut motion."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Sir, I should not have thought it necessary to intervene in this debate but for the fact the hon. the Leader of the Opposition and some other hon. Members on the other side of the House argued that if we did not vote

17th March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

for the motion, we were voting as it were against the principle that Government must be carried on on humane lines especially in dealing with the Congress movement. First of all let me point out that this motion is merely for the purpose of discussing the Police policy and for effecting retrenchments in the Police Budget. So far as the motion is concerned it is as vague and indefinite as it can be: it leads nowhere. If the object of the motion is to have a discussion, enough discussion there has been about the methods of the civil disobedience movement and the various acts of omission and commission on the part of the Police. They have given their opinion and other people who did not see eye to eye with them on many points have given theirs also. Especially Sir A. P. Patro and Rao Bahadur Pannirselvam have put the case on behalf of my party in no unequivocal terms. There is no question as to whether they are the sole spokesmen of our party or not. Sir A. P. Patro occupies an important place and is a prominent member of our party. If therefore we do not vote for this motion, it is because, in the words of the hon. the Leader of the Opposition characterizing our motion the other day, his motion is vague and does not lead anywhere. After all what is indicated by the motion before us?

"On the merits of the motion itself, the hon. the Leader of the Opposition said that the motion was to censure the Police and not to censure the hon. the Home Member. On that point I should say that we are now discussing the grant moved by the hon. the Home Member in connexion with the administration of the Police for which he is directly responsible. Is it open to us on this occasion to table a motion in the House not to censure the Home Member who is in charge of the department but to censure a few officials and subordinates of the department for having committed excesses in carrying out the duties entrusted to them? I do not think it is open to the movers of the motion to say: 'will you give a vote in favour of this motion; we are not voting against the Home Member but against some local officials in the district.' From that point of view we think we will be entirely justified in not voting with the Mover of the motion if it is put to vote. My hon. Friend appealed to us to join with him in establishing conventions which will lead to better administration and a humane system of administration. May I also in all humility tender one advice to him? It is no doubt the duty of the Opposition to find out where the Government have fallen short of their expectations, but it is also their duty, having brought to the notice of the Government certain grievances, to have patience and wait to see what the Government will do. (Hon. Members: 'How long?') I know, Sir, the Opposition is tired, tired of themselves, tired of their voices, but we are not tired. (Interruption.) I am not referring to that. Reference was made to two or three cases. So far as Doctor Paton is concerned, I think it is practically a closed chapter. The Secretary of State has tendered an apology for the events that took place and I am sure nobody is anxious to reopen the matter. With regard to Messrs. Ramaswami and Subba Rao the hon. the Leader of the Opposition read out a statement that these two gentlemen made in the Court, but did he read the judgment of the court, the pronouncement of the judicial tribunal? Did the judicial tribunal act upon it? Should we not know

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [17th March 1932

that before we can act upon it? It is for the Government to consider in the light of the statement made in the court and the judgment of the court, to what extent they can act upon them and what action they can take upon them. The hon. the Leader of the House said that he is enquiring into the matter. My hon. Friends on the other side seem to think that they have given sufficient time to the hon. the Home Member and that he has still not passed any orders. He has said to-day that he has taken the initial step of transferring the Inspector concerned and he is considering the question of taking further action. I ask, is it reasonable even for an Opposition to say, 'we will give some time to the Government and if within that time you do not do something, we will pass a vote of censure on you'? I say that is not a proper attitude to take.

"Then there was the urine case to which Mr. Indraiah referred. In the course of a supplemental question, he said that some such incidents took place. I was curious to know what exactly happened. I went to Mr. Indraiah and asked him whether he knew the details and if so whether he has given the information to the hon. the Home Member. He did not do it till now. He has taken a statement from these people and my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, has just handed it over to the Home Member. You merely make a statement here, you do not give definite materials as to the time and place of the occurrence, you do not give time to the Government to make enquiries, and then you come and say; 'on the strength of these things we will pass a vote of censure on the Government: all of you come and join us.'

"Then with regard to the Narasapur case, Government has clearly stated that they sympathise with the objects of the 'Buy Indian League.' They have gone out of the way and said that the League ought to be supported. This morning my hon. Friend the Home Member read out a statement of instructions issued to all District Magistrates to give all the necessary facilities to the officers of the League.

5 "You still have the right of moving an adjournment motion with regard to the Narsapur incident. Because information is not available, do you want to use it as a peg for passing this vote of censure? I submit that it requires some amount of patience. I only repeat that sufficient opportunity has not been given. You will have to wait till the Government are able to pass necessary orders. But a general discussion like this leads nowhere; matters are still under consideration; therefore I do not think it is safe that we should vote on a motion of this kind. Even though we cannot join the Opposition on this question, our party members have made it clear that there have been some excesses; but this is not a motion with which we can sympathise: of course particular complaints will be enquired into and disposed of properly. The members of our party cannot join the Opposition in passing this motion."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—'*that the allotment of Rs. 1,54,10,600 under Demand XIV—Police—Reserved, be reduced by Rs. 100*'."

17th March 1932]

The motion was declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:—

Ayes.

1. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi.
2. ,, C. Indrayya.
3. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
4. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
5. Mr. Yakub Hasan.
6. ,, K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
7. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
8. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
9. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
10. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
11. Rao Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai.
12. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahih Bahadur.
13. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
14. Mr. V. P. Narayanan Nambiyar.
15. ,, M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
16. ,, A. B. Shetty.
17. ,, Gade Simhachalam.
18. ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
19. ,, Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
20. ,, K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
21. ,, A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai.
22. The Pattagar of Palayakottai.
23. Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
24. ,, K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.
25. ,, A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
26. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
27. ,, C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar.
28. ,, V. T. Arasu.
29. ,, G. Lakshmana Reddi.
30. ,, P. Madhusoodhanan Thangal.

Noes.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
2. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
3. ,, Sir Archibald Campbell.
4. ,, Mr. H. G. Stokes.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6. ,, Mr. P .T. Rajan.
7. ,, Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. Rao Bahadur G. Jagannadha Raju.
9. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
10. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham.
11. ,, J. A. Thorne.
12. ,, H. M. Hood.
13. ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
14. ,, S. H. Slater.
15. ,, E. Conran Smith.
16. ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
17. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
18. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam.
19. Mr. M. B. Rangaswami Reddi.
20. ,, M. Devadasan.
21. ,, N. Siva Raj.
22. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
23. Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar.
24. Mr. M. S. Sreshta.
25. ,, P. C. Moses.
26. ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
27. ,, V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
28. ,, T. Narasa Reddi.
29. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
30. Raja of Kallikote.
31. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
32. Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
33. Mr. M. A.. Muthiah Chettiyar.
34. Diwan Bahadur A.M.M. Murugappa Chettiyar.
35. Mr. Daniel Thomas.
36. Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
37. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
38. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Chetti.
39. Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
40. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
41. Zamindar of Chemudu.
42. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
43. ,, A. Harischandrudu.
44. ,, K. Kesava Ramamurti.
45. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
46. Mr. F. G. Luker.
47. ,, A. W. Hutton.
48. ,, F. Birley.
49. Capt. W. E. Winter.
50. Mr. F. E. James.
51. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
52. Mr. C. Basu Dev.
53. Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
54. Rao Sahib D. Krishnamurti.
55. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
56. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
57. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.
58. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
59. Khan Bahadur T. M. Moidoo Sahib Bahadur.
60. Mr. G. R. Premayya.

Neutral.

1. Rao Sahib Badeti Venkataramayya Nayudu.
2. Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
3. Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari.

Ayes—30. *Noes*—60. *Neutral*—3.

The motion was lost.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,54,10,600 *under Demand XIV—Police—Reserved* '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XV—AGENT FOR GOVERNMENT CONSIGNMENTS—RESERVED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 26,700 *under Demand XIV—Agent for Government Consignments*'."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Sir, I move the following :

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 26,700 *for Agent for Government Consignments be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" The object of the motion is to discuss the poor representation of Muslims in the establishment of the Port Trust in all departments. I would invite the particular attention of the hon. the Law Member to the dearth of Muslim apprentices taken in the Port Trust Workshop. The Port Trust has a big establishment. If the Government were to give effect to the Government Order that is in vogue in other departments, in this department also, the number of Muslims in the Port Trust ought to be two out of twelve. But as it is, I find that the Muslim representation is very inadequate and it is far below the portion that has been set apart for that community under the Government Orders now in force. I would urge on the hon. the Law Member that he should take steps to see that more Muslims are entertained particularly in the Technical department. In that department, the members of the Muslim community are too backward to come in and unless they are encouraged and unless there are opportunities for them as there are for other communities, the community will lag behind. In these days in order to remove the disproportion among the various communities and in order to put an end to inequalities, it is very essential that encouragement should be given to the members of communities which are backward. I therefore move this reduction motion."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" With reference to the cut motion of my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, I very much sympathize with him in his aspirations. But, if my hon. Friend realized the position of the Government in this matter, I am sure he would not in any way blame the Government. For, under the Port Trust Act, the power of making appointments in all the departments of the Port Trust, except four appointments, rests entirely with the Port Trust. The Government have no power to interfere in any way. With reference to these four appointments, the position is this : the office of the Chairman of the Port Trust is now held by Mr. Armstrong. The other three officers are the Chief Engineer, the Deputy Port Conservator and the Chief Accountant. With reference to the latter three posts, the only power the Government have is the power of veto; they have no

17th March 1932]   [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

power of initiation; they have no power of appointment. If the Port Trust makes recommendations to the Government nominating any person to any of these three posts, the Government may say 'no ; we cannot accept the appointment.' But the Government cannot say to the Board, 'nominate A, B or C to any one of these posts.' The Government have no power of initiation which rests entirely with the Port Trust. As my hon. Friend knows, the Government cannot always veto the recommendations made by a body constituted like the Port Trust. With reference to the appointment of the Chairman of the Port Trust, the Government have the power of making the appointment. That office is held by Mr. Armstrong now, and unless the office becomes vacant, the Government cannot consider any suggestions with regard to that post. I hope my hon. Friend will not therefore press his cut motion."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" The hon. Member may take to the notice of the Port Trust the representations made in this Council, because he is the only medium through whom we can ventilate our grievances. I request the hon. Member to represent to the authorities of the Port Trust that the Muslim community is dissatisfied with the present state of things."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I shall forward a copy of the discussion here to the Chairman of the Port Trust."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

" Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" I move, Sir—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 26,700 *for Agent for Government Consignments be reduced by Rs.* 100.' 4 P

" The object of my motion is to discuss the necessity of amending the Port Trust Act with a view to enlarge the constitution so as to give representation to the Grain Merchants' Association of the City of Madras. Sir, the Port Trust Act came into effect 15 or 16 years ago, and since then, there have been amendments of various sections. Ever since the amendments were brought into effect, there has also been agitation on the part of several merchant interests in the City of Madras asking for representation on the Port Trust. I am requesting, Sir, the hon. the Law Member to take steps to amend the existing Act so as to give representation to one of the associations, viz., the Grain Merchants' Association, which is doing large business in imports in the City of Madras. Representations have already been made to the Government with regard to the necessity of representation for the Grain Merchants' Association. The Government replied at one stage that the matter was under consideration, and at another stage they seem to have said that they did not see the necessity of any such amendment of the Act at present. I submit, Sir, that the discontent and the grievance of the Grain Merchants' Association are real and the Government would not be well-advised in ignoring a reasonable demand on the part of the Grain Merchants' Association. It is true, Sir, that the South Indian Chamber

of Commerce has representation on the Port Trust, but that representation is in itself very inadequate and very disproportionate to the strength of the South Indian Chamber of Commerce. If the Government would so amend the Act, if they are against increasing the representation of further separate interests, I would urge that they should at least enhance the number of seats allotted to the South Indian Chamber of Commerce. If they double the present number, it will be possible for the South Indian Chamber of Commerce to distribute the available seats among the various other bodies which constitute that Chamber. That not being so, even the South Indian Chamber of Commerce finds it difficult to satisfy the component parts and the various interests which are represented thereon. There is also an agitation on the part of the Port Trust Workers' Union that according to the Whitley Commission's recommendations, the Government should amend the Port Trust Act so as to give representation to the Workers' Union. That, I think, the Government is bound to do if they are going to give effect to the recommendations of the Whitley Commission where it has been definitely stated that the workers in the Port Trust should have representation on the body of the Port Trust, if their interests are to be safeguarded. If that is going to be done, and even if it is not done, it is urgent that representation to the Grain Merchants' Association should be given. The work and the outturn of the Grain Merchants' Association is tremendous and all questions of landing charges and various other facilities are dealt with by them. So, unless they have got representation, the difficulties cannot be brought home to the administration, and I therefore urge that the hon. the Law Member should view this matter sympathetically and get the Act amended as early as possible."

Mr. *Abdul Hameed Khan*:—" Mr. President, I wish to make only one or two observations on this motion. I believe that the Port Trust has been in existence for some time. Knowing as I do the working of the Port Trust, I believe it is time that the constitution is changed in order to give better representation to the Grain Merchants' Association who have the largest number of members in the City and the Province. As a matter of fact, there seems to be an over-weighted representation for a particular class of merchants, and insufficient representation for that class of merchants who form the bulk of the traders in the City and the Province. This sort of inequality, Sir, might have been tolerated some time ago; but things have been carried on in such a way that the representations of the merchants and of those who are concerned with the working of the Port Trust are not heeded at all. We have found that the representation regarding reduction of rates and other such things have not been heeded. They were, I suppose, put off because the constitution of the Port Trust Board is such that the people who are members of the Board do not see eye to eye with the largest class of merchants in the country. I find, Sir, that the meetings of the Port Trust Board are held for about five or ten minutes. Whatever resolutions or suggestions that the Chairman makes are being passed within five or ten minutes. It is a body which does not really go into

17th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

the questions coming before it. The subjects coming before the Board are very big subjects which require to be dealt with adequately whenever the Board meets. But I hear the Port Trust Board meets only once in a month, and even once in two months in some cases. I cannot understand how a really representative body like the Port Trust which deals with important subjects affecting the trade of the Presidency can finish the agenda for the meeting within five or ten minutes or even fifteen minutes. I really feel that there is no real democratic spirit prevailing in the working of the Port Trust. Therefore I believe it is high time that the people's representatives have a better representation there, so that they may put forward the point of view of the merchants of the City and of the Province."

Mr. C. Basu Dev:—"Sir, I am glad my friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed has drawn the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the necessity of giving representation on the Port Trust Board to the Port Trust workers. I understand, Sir, that some time ago, a deputation waited on the Law Member to press upon him the necessity for representation of the Port Trust workers. I may remind the House that in the Bombay Port Trust, there is a seat reserved for the representation of the workers of the Port Trust. I now understand that the Karachi Port Trust Act also is being amended in order to provide a seat for the representative of the Port Trust workers. I would therefore request the hon. the Law Member to bring an early amendment of the Act, so as to give representation to the workers of the Port Trust on the Board."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"Sir, two requests have been made under this cut motion. One is that the Grain Merchants' Association should have representation on the Port Trust Board. The other is that the workers' association must also have representation on the Board. Last time, that is in 1931, when we were discussing the Budget, the motion that is now made on behalf of the Grain Merchants' Association was made, and I told my friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed—I believe it was Mr. Basheer Ahmed himself who moved the motion then—that a petition from the Grain Merchants' Association was then pending before the Government with reference to this matter. The Government subsequently considered that petition and disposed of the matter, and told the Grain Merchants' Association that if they wanted representation on the Port Trust Board, they should get such representation through the South Indian Chamber of Commerce which is now authorized under the Act to send representatives to the Port Trust Board. They have sent a letter to the Government accepting that position, but adding that some other bodies which now have representation should be deprived of their representation. I am afraid that is not possible now. So long as those other bodies have such representation under existing circumstances, they must continue to have it. The Government have accepted the position that it was legitimate and right that the Grain Merchants' Association should have representation, but decided that they should seek to have such representation through the South Indian Chamber of Commerce. When the

Port Trust Act is next amended, this suggestion will be borne in mind, viz., the desirability of enhancing the number of representatives now allowed to the South Indian Chamber of Commerce. So also with reference to the request of my Friend, Mr. Basu Dev, the desirability and necessity of giving representation on the Port Trust Board to the workers' association will then be considered by the Government."

Mr. T. S. RAMASWAMI AYYAR :—" Sir, I desire to draw the attention of the hon. the Law Member to the inadequacy of representation in the Port Trust, so far at least as the Corporation of Madras is concerned. The Madras Port Trust sends a representative to the Corporation of Madras; but the Corporation has no right to send a representative to the Port Trust. The Corporation is entitled, as a body vested with the municipal administration of this City, to send its representative to the Port Trust; very often differences in view arise between the Port Trust and the Corporation of Madras. It will be possible to adjust the differences if there is a representative of the Corporation on the Port Trust."

* Mr. N. SIVA RAJ :—" Might I follow up the suggestion of the President of the Madras Corporation and request the hon. the Law Member if he could not see his way to secure the representation of the Members of this Legislative Council as such also on the Port Trust Board ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Now, the requests made by my Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Ayyar and my other Friend are not included in this cut-motion; but nevertheless I can promise them this, that when the Port Trust Act is next amended, all these suggestions will be taken into consideration. I dare say the number of elected representatives will then have to be enhanced; but, as I said, all these things will be considered then."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" When are you likely to take up the amendment of the Act? (After a pause) I withdraw the motion, Sir."

The motion was, by leave of the House, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I shall now put the main Demand to the vote of the House.

" The question is—

' *that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 26,700 *under Demand XV—Agent for Government Consignments* '."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 34,62,000 *under Demand XVI—Electricity—Reserved* '."

17th March 1932]

* Mr. A. W. Hutton:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to move the cut-motion standing in my name, viz.:

' *that the allotment of Rs.* 34,62,000 *under Electricity—Reserved, be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" I do so with considerable diffidence since the blush of maidenhood lies more heavily on my cheek than on that of any other Member of this House. Indeed, I should not have risen at all, had I not felt impelled by a sense of duty; because I am sufficiently impressed of the necessity for Members of this House to be aware of what they speak before they stand up and criticize responsible Members of Government and their departments. I hope that on this occasion I shall not be accused of opportunism in speaking, because of the fact that I am concerned directly with at least one part of the industry with which this particular Demand deals. It may be that on these grounds, certain of my remarks may be discounted; and if that is so, then I regret it. But I would remind hon. Members that I speak as a Member of this House and in no other capacity. And if I have a certain knowledge of the subject, I am anxious that I should have the honour of giving them that knowledge rather than allowing it to be given by any other Member of the House who may be present here.

" Now, Sir, the particular project in question is the Hydro-Electric scheme at Pykara. As such the scheme cannot be criticized from any point of view, but when it is considered in its broader aspects, I believe that it is not quite as it first appears to be. It looks like a sheep by appearance, but underneath this guise of sheep, there is the wolf. I propose to criticize the scheme from three main points of view. The first of which is a guarantee which I find in a Government publication published by the Madras Hydro-Electric department. The second of which is the coercive measures which are attempted to be used by Government to foster the scheme against more economic enterprises. And, finally, I am going to criticize it on the ground of an item in this Budget itself. The particular pamphlet to which I refer is a publication of this Government. (The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar: ' What is the date of that publication? ') The publication is dated 1931 and was printed by the Government Press and is available, I suppose, to the public. On page 7 of the pamphlet, the statement is made that the Government guarantee that hydro-electric power will always be cheaper than coal or oil. I ask, Sir, how this particular task is going to be achieved? If it is going to be achieved by ordinary business methods, that is to say, by reducing the cost of output, then I have no quarrel with the guarantee whatsoever. But the word ' guarantee ' is a word which has an air of finality about it and to say the least of it is menacing and I also suspect that there is the intention behind the back of the Government to subsidize this industry at some future date.

" The second point which I wish to raise is the question of coercing the other departments of Government to transfer their present methods of producing power to that of electricity and I am credibly informed

that the manager of the Coimbatore Jail the other day was told by Government or by a representative of the Government that the present method of power production must be abandoned, whether he wished it or not, and that in future he will have to use electricity to produce his power.

" Thirdly, Sir, on page 63 of the Budget Memorandum, in paragraph 183, second sentence, there is the following statement:—

'The Budget Estimate for 1932–1933 includes ·25 lakhs for the purchase of electrical equipment to be supplied under a hire-purchase system to small mill or factory owners or agriculturists who have not the means to purchase them outright.'

" It may perhaps be argued by the hon. the Law Member that I am much interested in what I have to say. That is not the case, and I regard this moment as particularly opportune since we are discussing the Budget. I do not believe that at any time even the most sanguine supporters of this Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme really felt that it was going to pay within a reasonable period, and whether it would pay ultimately depends upon considerations which are not as yet, as far as I know, finally decided. While it is futile to discuss the question of capital expenditure that has already been, and is being, spent upon the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme, since it has gone so far, surely it is time to consider whether the public pocket should be tampered with any further. Any scheme whereby a fixed buying price to the public is guaranteed must, in my view, postulate the subsidization of the scheme by the Government. There is no such suggestion in the present Budget and therefore I can do no more now than to utter a word of warning, which I hope will be noted.

" As regards the second point, that of forcing electric power also on consumers of either coal or oil, there is not now much to be said, except to point out that by doing this, the consumers of oil and coal are forced to extra expense and also the producers of coal and oil—who are also tax-payers to Government—will be forced out of the market by unfair competition and such revenue as is produced by these producers of coal and oil will be a loss to the Government by their going out of the business.

" Lastly, Sir, this item in the Budget of Rs. 25,000 is intended to subsidize the purchase of machinery for converting the present power into electricity. I ask hon. Members of this House whether this is the time, when we are passing through a great crisis in our financial affairs, for a subsidy of this nature which is entirely uncalled for either by commercial or other interests. I ask the House whether it is really necessary that this machinery should be purchased now. I do not propose to discuss it at great length, but I would draw the attention of the House to this paragraph as it appears to have been slipped in and might quite easily be slipped by without being noticed. The hon. the Finance Member has quite rightly drawn our attention to the necessity for strictest economy at this juncture and I do not believe that this Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme can be described as a strictly economic proposition. Now, of its public utility there can be no question

17th March 1932] [Mr. A. W. Hutton]

and from that point of view, it is worthy of our support, but the present time is not the time when we can afford luxuries and I regard this at the present moment as being in the nature of a luxury. There is no demand either in Coimbatore, Erode or Salem or any other district which this scheme is scheduled to supply. There is no demand for electricity as opposed to other kinds of power. Other kinds of power are already available there cheaply and the problem of supplying is not one which is difficult of solution. I maintain that the most we can do at the present moment with regard to the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme is to mark time and certainly not to embark on any financial adventures such as appear to be adumbrated in this pamphlet and in the Budget itself. I wish to make myself quite clear and I am not criticizing this proposal from the point of view of competition with industry, or at least I am not criticizing it only from that point of view or even mainly from that point of view. Industry, both coal and oil, can be trusted to look after itself and I have no doubt that it will do so, but if competition with industries is intended, it means a heavy demand on the public purse, because I am convinced that hydro-electricity is not a paying proposition and to enable it to be carried out in competition with coal and oil is going to be a drain on the public or the tax-payer. Coal and oil producers are also tax-payers and the attitude of the Government at the present moment appears to be to encourage one set of tax-payers in order to put another set of tax-payers out of existence. That is not my main point of criticism. My main point of criticism is financial. I do not consider that the present juncture is the time when our finances should be imperilled in this manner."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Mr. President, I can understand the position of Mr. Hutton if he made a speech when the demand was originally made and before the scheme was actually started. But, the scheme has been already started, a good lot of money has been already spent on the scheme and we are now almost completing the arrangement for the supply of electric power. At this stage, to come and talk about competition with coal and oil on the one hand and electricity on the other hand is, I beg to submit, a little bit too late. Then again, I can understand if he wanted to voice the grievances here against the scheme. He says that Government want to subsidize the scheme. What exactly does it mean, I do not understand. If it means that they are going to give any subsidy directly, it is not the case. If it is, on the other hand, any indirect subsidizing by way of reducing the cost by which electricity is going to be supplied, well, that is a matter of calculation. Here again, I do not know whether my hon. Friend has calculated how much it exactly costs Government and how much they can afford to charge for the supply of electricity to the consumers. Then, I do not think it means any indirect subsidizing of industries in Coimbatore Jail. As a matter of fact, my information is that the complaint is the other way.

"Again, Sir, he referred to the provision of ·25 lakh odd for loans to be given for the purpose of converting the oil machinery into electric

machinery. Ofc ourse, he as a businessman knows very well what is to be done in business. When he wants to supply petrol or petrol machinery he has to give some sort of credit to the people who are prepared to utilize power. Government, after all in this matter, are doing only business. If they mean that by lending some money they are able to convert the present machinery into electrical machinery, it will be very good business. If, on the other hand, they had not done so, I think they will be losing a lot of income. I thought, therefore, as a businessman, my hon. Friend would not take objection to this.

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Hutton was speaking about guaranteeing supply of electric power at a less cost than coal or oil. That is exactly the point on which I want to say a word or two. So far as I am concerned, I am connected with two machines, in one of them power is generated by means of fuel and in another from petrol or crude oil. There we find that the charge which the Government want to impose does not seem to work out profitable to us.

"If it is not, the question of whether we are to take it at all will arise. It is a very difficult position for us at the present moment if we are to pay the charge which the Government want us to pay. I, therefore, want to raise this question here and ask the hon. the Law Member whether he cannot go into the matter and make enquiries as to the cost that we have to incur just now when we are using power from other sources. The prophesy held out in the book from which my hon. Friend read that the prices will be lower than what we are incurring at present does not seem to be justified. I want the hon. the Law Member to see whether we could not be charged a fair price. After all, Sir, it is a matter of business both for the Government and the mills which take power. The fuel per horse-power for the machines which are now used comes to somewhere about $6\frac{1}{2}$ pies. And also we have to change the machinery, if we are to take electric power which means an additional cost of about Rs. 60,000. I understand that it comes to a question of our having to pay half a pie more per horse-power. But it all depends on the quantity of power we take. So far as the mills with which I am concerned it comes to about half a pie more than what we are actually spending at the present moment. The Government want to impose a rate of about six or seven pies. Such being the case, it would not pay us actually if we are to take power from the Government. Therefore, Sir, I think that the hon. gentleman will look into the matter and see whether the prices cannot be reduced to what we can afford as otherwise, it will be impossible for us to use the power. There are about three or four mills which are using fuel and Mr. Winter is connected with them and the other machines are working with oil. In these cases also, Sir, unless the rates are to be reduced there is no possibility of our getting power. I hope, Sir, that the hon. the Law Member will look into the question and if possible go over there and have a talk with the persons concerned in company with his electrical adviser and then come to some understanding."

The House adjourned to meet at 11 a.m. the next day.

IV.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. (a) *U.O. Note No.* 3194-2, *Public (General), dated* 14*th March* 1932, *with reference to the answer to question No.* 841, *dated* 24*th February* 1932.

2. (b) *U.O. Note No.* 3203-2, *Public (General), dated* 11*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 835 *dated the* 24*th February* 1932.

3. (c) *U.O. Note No.* 3195-1, *Public (General), dated* 11*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 838, *dated the* 24*th February* 1932.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

(a) Printed as Appendix II on page 469 infra.
(b) Printed as Appendix III on page 469 infra.
(c) Printed as Appendix IV on page 470 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1036 asked by Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 17th March 1932, page 396 supra.]

List of Labour Schools closed since 1st *July* 1931.

District. (1)	Number of schools closed on account of unsatisfactory working (very low attendance, etc., which does not justify the running of a school). (2)	Number of schools closed owing to there being sufficient educational facilities in the locality such as the existence of Board schools, etc., which make the existence of labour schools superfluous. (3)	Number of schools closed on account of financial stringency. (In the end of last year 1930-31 permission was given to open some schools and as there was not provision for opening new schools this year they were ordered to be closed). (4)	Total number of schools closed. (5)
1. East Godavari	15	1	..	16
2. West Godavari	23	..	..	23
3. Kistna	25	7	..	32
4. Guntur	9	20	..	29
5. Nellore	25	1	..	26
6. Cuddapah	3	3	..	6
7. Anantapur	23	5	..	28
8. Bellary	27	..	..	27
9. Kurnool	..	..	2	2
10. Chingleput	60	1	..	61
11. Chittoor	1	..	..	1
12. North Arcot	13	4	..	17
13. South Arcot	15	2	..	17
14. Tanjore	119	6	..	125
15. Trichinopoly	27	4	3	34
16. Tinnevelly	5	6	..	11
17. Coimbatore	3	2	1	6
18. Salem	..	..	5	5
19. South Kanara	26	1	..	27
20. Malabar	11	4	..	15
21. Madras	3	1	..	4
Total ..	433	68	11	512

17th March 1932]

APPENDIX II.

[Vide Item IV—Papers laid on the Table of the House—page 467 supra.]

PUBLIC (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT.

U.O. Note No. 3194-2, *dated* 14*th March* 1932.

With reference to the answer to question No. 841 given in the Council on 24th February 1932 the following information is laid on the table :—

* 841 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that pictures of Mahatma Gandhi and other national leaders were seized by the Chittoor Police from the shops where they were for sale and burnt and under what law this was done ?

A.—No pictures of Mr. Gandhi or other leaders were seized in Chittoor. Pictures of Bhagat Singh and his comrades only were seized.

G. T. H. BRACKEN,
Chief Secretary.

To the Legislative Council Office.

APPENDIX III.

[Vide Item IV—Papers laid on the Table of the House—page 467 supra.]

PUBLIC (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT.

U.O. Note No. 3203-2, *dated the* 11*th March* 1932.

With reference to the answer given to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 835 at the meeting of the Legislative Council on 24th February 1932 the following information is placed on the table :—

1147. *Q.*—Mr. C. INDRAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) Whether it is a fact that Mr. Mulpuri Rangayya, L. M. & S., Ellore, who was arrested at Ellore on the morning of the 12th January 1932 and while he was in custody of the police before trial, was beaten by the Reserve Police at the Ellore Town Police Station ;

(*b*) whether any instructions were given to the Reserve Police to beat him ; if so, by whom and for what reasons and also under what law or Ordinance ?

A.—(*a*) and (*b*) No.

G. T. H. BRACKEN,
Chief Secretary.

To the Legislative Council Office.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide Item IV—Papers laid on the Table of the House—page 467 supra.]

PUBLIC (GENERAL) DEPARTMENT.

U.O. Note No. 3195-1, *dated the 11th March* 1932.

With reference to the answer given to Question No. 838 at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 24th February 1932, the following information is laid on the table :—

* 1101 *Q.*—Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that Mr. M. Lakshmi Narasimham, the Hindi Instructor in the " Gandhi Vidyalaya, " Ellore, was taken to the police station on 9th January 1932 and assaulted ; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that he was locked up in the police station for some hours and taken and left at his house at about midnight ?

A.—(*a*) The Government have ascertained that the person mentioned was not taken to the police station nor was he assaulted.

(*b*) No.

G. T. H. BRACKEN,
Chief Secretary.

To the Legislative Council Office.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Friday, the 18th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (The hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., O.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jaganuadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanam Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Chemudu, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Local Self-Government

Reconstitution of the Madura Municipality.

* 1043 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether he has under consideration any draft Bill for reconstituting the Madura Municipality with an executive on the model of the Madras Corporation ?

A.—The question of drafting a bill to provide for the appointment of paid Commissioners in some of the important municipalities is under consideration.

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" May I know, Sir, how long the municipality is to continue under the Special Officer and when will the municipality be given the right to elect its own Councillors ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" It will continue till August, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister whether before August the draft of the Bill would be completed and introduced in the Council ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I hope I shall be able to introduce the Bill at the next session of the Council."

Religious and Charitable Endowments

Constitution of temple committees.

* 1044 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) in how many districts temple committees have been constituted and are functioning now; and

(*b*) what action Government propose to take to remove the legal difficulties in the way of the Government nominating temple committee members?

18th March 1932]

A.—(*a*) Temple committees have been constituted and are functioning now only in the areas noted below:—

Tanjore district.

South Arcot district.

Tinnevelly district.

Madura district (only in respect of the Madura devasthanams and its allied institutions).

The committees in the Tanjore, South Arcot and Tinnevelly districts are elected ones.

(*b*) The entire question is being examined.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, why they have not been able to hold elections in other districts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Because the temple committees have not found money for holding the elections and for paying for the election officers and arranging for the elections."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" What is the difficulty in finding funds? Have not they been able to collect contributions?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" They have no funds in their hands to pay."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I enquire as to what has happened to the comprehensive Bill drafted for the purpose of amending the Endowments Act ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is being examined."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" The elections ought to be carried on as funds are being made available for them. If we go on like this every year, how are we to get on?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The Council wanted elected committees. They only gave power to the Government to nominate one or two. We find that we could not nominate any further. We cannot help it if the temple committees could not find money wherewith to hold elections. The Hindu Religious Endowments Act has also been amended enabling the Board to have all the powers of the committees when they are not constituted, so that the work of supervising can still be done by the Endowments Board."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Does the hon. the Chief Minister expect the Board to be able to supervise all the temples in the Presidency?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" They will have to do according to the Act."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" He has to find some means by which the elections are held. There is no use of marking time."

[18th March 1932

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR :—" May I ask the hon. Minister whether the provincialization of the Hindu Religious Endowments Board is still under the consideration of the Government ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" In view of the fact that the Board has been given powers to collect the contribution due to them as arrears of revenue, the Government do not consider it necessary."

The Madura Sri Meenakshisundareswarar Devasthanam Committee.

* 1045 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have recently appointed certain persons as members of the Madura Sri Meenakshisundareswarar Devasthanam Committee; and

(*b*) whether the Government are aware of the decision of the Madras High Court reported to the effect that the Government have no such power of appointment under the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Act?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes. The preliminaries necessary for the holding of elections are being expedited. The present arrangement is an *interim* one.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, what the Government propose to do in view of the fact that the High Court apparently has declared the act to be illegal?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" No, Sir, the High Court have merely expressed a doubt that the Government cannot have such a power and the Advocate-General was consulted thereon. Before his opinion was received, this committee was constituted. But elections thereto is to be held as early as possible."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know, Sir, in view of the fact that the High Court have held in doubt the legality of nomination to the temple committees, what the Government propose to do to avoid the possibility of their actions being questioned?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" The committee is only an interim committee and arrangements for the elections are being expedited."

Finance

Action taken on the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee regarding the special pay of officers.

* 1046 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Retrenchment Committee has made any recommendations with regard to special pay of the officers in public service;

18th March 1932]

(b) if so, what they are and what the total saving is in each department; and

(c) how many such recommendations have been accepted and enforced by the Government and why the rest of the recommendations have not been given effect to?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A complete list of all the proposals occupies about 61 printed pages and would be too voluminous to be given in answer to a question. A statement[a] is laid on the table showing the estimated saving in each department, if all the proposals were accepted.

(c) Proposals amounting to about Rs. 81,000 have already been accepted, a few have been rejected and the remainder are under consideration.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I enquire, Sir, why the Government have not accepted the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee by which a saving of about Rs. 10,000 could have been effected in the Excise Department?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" My impression is that it is under consideration still."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" In answer to the question, it is stated that some proposals amounting to Rs. 81,000 have been accepted and that some have been rejected; may I know why they have been rejected?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" An explanation of all these items would cover about 60 pages of matter—the hon. Member will not expect me to go over it here."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask, Sir, where, in cases the Government have accepted the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee and the pay of particular officers have been reduced, whether the difference between the old rate and the new rate is made up by giving personal pay?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" Does the hon. Member mean 'special pay'? 'Personal pay' is special pay."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. Member whether, in cases which have been adversely affected by the revision of the rates of special pay, the Government have treated the difference between the new rate of pay and the old rate of pay as personal pay? This is the information I want, Sir."

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES :—" Special pay is attached to certain posts for the arduous nature of duties. The present holders of such posts are protected subject to the 10 per cent cut. There is no necessity to make up the difference."

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[a] *Printed as Appendix I on page 530 infra.*

[18th March 1932

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, with regard to the items that have been rejected, may I know what the attitude of the hon. Member was—whether he advocated the proposals of the Retrenchment Committee or otherwise?"

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—"That does not arise out of the question."

Minor Irrigation

Proposed extension of the ayacut under the Elundrakondan Periyakulam, Srivillipputtur taluk.

* 1047 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the Council Table answers to question 97 asked at the meeting of 5th August 1931, and also the report of the Executive Engineer on the subject?

A.—The answer to question 97 was that the Government had no information but had called for a report. The memorandum issued on 28th January 1932 as an appendix to the answer to question 772 gives the facts at that time in the possession of the Government. In the light of further information since supplied, the Government have asked the Board of Revenue to examine the conditions of irrigation under the tank and to inform Government of the result.

Control of Vehicles

Savings to Government by the collection of fees for registration of motor vehicles and issue of driving licences.

* 1048 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount collected last year as fees for the registration of motor vehicles and the grant of driving licences;

(*b*) the amount spent for giving honoraria to District Superintendents of Police and for pay and allowances to bus inspectors; and

(*c*) the annual savings to Government from this source?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have not the information; they have called for it.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I ask the hon. Member whether the Government are making any saving from this source?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am not able to do so until I get the information."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask the hon. Member whether even after the appointment of sub-inspector, the District Superintendents of Police are paid honorarium?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There are four or five Superintendents of Police who are doing this work and they are getting the honoraria."

18th March 1932]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know, Sir, what proportion of the fees collected is being spent on payment of honoraria?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" Notice, Sir."

Law and Order—General

" Police Gazette, " dated 2nd August 1931, *regarding lathi charge.*

*1049 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to place a copy of the *Police Gazette,* dated 2nd August 1931, regarding lathi charge and

(ii) to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the *Police Gazette,* dated 2nd August 1931, orders were given to the Police to lathi charge with full force on the face and neck;

(*b*) whether the Government expected that the Gandhi-Irwin pact would break down, and were making preparations for the fight when they issued the said notification; if so, when were the preparations begun and completed; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to modify the said notification of 2nd August 1931?

A.—(i) The extract [a] of the *Police Gazette* relating to the lathi charge is attached.

(ii) (*a*) Yes, but these instructions apply only to the case of formidable mobs. Where considerable resistance to dispersal is unlikely the force employed by the Police should be carefully regulated to what is required to effect dispersal and blows should not be directed at the heads or faces of the opponents. A few blows with switches or light canes should be sufficient to disperse very small assemblies.

(*b*) The instructions were issued in the same way that instructions contained in other official manuals are issued in the ordinary course of business, and had no connexion whatever with the political situation. It is part of the ordinary duty of the Police to deal with riotous mobs of any description and it is necessary that they should be trained to discharge this duty.

(*c*) No.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Sir, with reference to answer (ii) (*a*) and with reference to the *Police Gazette* itself, may I know why it does not appear along with the main portion of the Gazette but has been subsequently added, may I know whether it is not a subsequent addition made to that Gazette? "

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 531 infra.

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I am not sure whether it is a subsequent edition or not; but the fact is that it is there."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know, Sir, whether this was not added recently in February last, whereas the main instructions were issued on the 2nd August 1931?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have no information, Sir, as to when it was added; but anyway the addition is there."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" Sir, I understand that what is added to the original instructions is not a mere addition but a modification of a part of it. In the former it is stated that blows can be delivered at the face or neck of a member of a mob; but in the latter it is stated that blows should not be directed at the head or faces of the members of a crowd. May I ask, Sir, why is it that while at first they were to charge at faces and neck, afterwards the faces only were omitted but not the neck?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The first refers to formidable and violent mobs and the second to ordinary mobs."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" May I know from the hon. Gentleman why the people who begin to run should be pursued and beaten? Is that the effect of the order?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" My hon. Friend knows that there are occasions when the mob has to be dispersed. Supposing a mob has to be dispersed by force, we use lathis or light canes. If the mob is formidable or violent, the Police have to open fire. But now by this amendment we have got an intermediate method of dispersing before taking recourse to opening fire by the lathi charges on the faces and neck, the firing has been postponed to a later stage."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—" May I ask the hon. Gentleman whether these methods are to be employed against non-violent picketers?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" This is not primarily against the Civil Disobedience Movement. The Police have to maintain Law and Order in this country and these rules have been made for their guidance."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I enquire why it was felt necessary to make this addition to the publication in the Gazette?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Because experience had shown to the Inspector-General of Police that it was better to postpone opening fire to a later stage."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" The hon. the Home Member has said that this has nothing to do with the Civil Disobedience Movement, why then force of the kind mentioned here was used on picketers?"

18th March 1932]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Even in the case of the Civil Disobedience Movement, we will have to do this if there is a violent and formidable mob."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, if all assemblies have been subjected to the same process of dispersal (outlined in the Gazette) whether they be formidable or not, before this addition was made to the *Police Gazette* of 2nd August 1931?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have already stated that before this amendment was made, if a mob was very violent and formidable, it could not be dispersed by lathis and fire was opened. But now this intermediate stage has been introduced."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know as to what the circumstances were under which the addition was made?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have already stated that experience had shown to the Inspector-General of Police that this was better since opening fire is considered more drastic."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, where people have been caned and where they died, whether the assemblies were formidable?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Not necessarily."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, when the addition was made?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not know when this was made; but all the same it is there; I understand, Sir, it is in the same Gazette."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"I know it is an addition made to the Gazette, but may I know the date when it was added?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is there already."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Will the hon. Member see that even in the case of formidable assemblies, lathi charges are not directed against the face?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No Sir. The reason is that such a form of dispersal is better than opening fire which is more drastic."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"May I ask the hon. Gentleman what is the necessity for these people to utter the word 'Ha' loudly as the charges are made?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"My hon. Friend has been in the Treasury Benches and he knows what this is."

[18th March 1932

1-15 .m. *Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:*—" *May I know what part of the face is intended to be struck? It is simply said here 'face'.*"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The hon. Member may draw any inference he likes."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Am I to understand that the head constables or constables who may be present are to judge whether a mob is formidable or informidable? Is that discretion given them? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The constable or head constable has nothing to do with it. There are superior officers to determine that question."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Omitting the instructions issued later, do Government consider that the instructions that were first issued are justifiable? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" That is why there is the addition now."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" May I know whether the instructions first issued are justifiable? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I say that is why there is the addition now. There is no use repeating the question."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" In view of the fact that the constables and the head constables will be practically in command of the situation, may I know whether Government think them to be competent to exercise discretion in deciding the nature of the mob? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" These are matters left to the discretion of the Inspector-General of Police."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" Was the initiative for this addition taken by the hon. Home Member or the Inspector-General of Police? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The Inspector-General."

Training to Police subordinates in the use of lathis.

* 1050 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Will the hon the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Police subordinates are trained now to use lathis above the neck only; and

(*b*) whether they are instructed to deal heavy blows above the neck only?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to clause (ii) (*a*) of question No. 1049.

18th March 1932]

Alleged raid by the Police of a Khaddar Weaving Association in Rajahmundry.

* 1051 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Police raided a large Khaddar Weaving Association in Rajahmundry in January 1932;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Police destroyed most of the valuable looms in the association;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Police took away about 40 cart-loads of khaddar from the said association;

(*d*) under what provisions of law and why did the Police do all the abovesaid acts; and

(*e*) what action the Government have taken, or propose to take, in the matter?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) No khaddar weaving association in Rajahmundry was raided by the Police in January 1932. If the hon. Member refers to the Sitanagaram Ashram in the Rajahmundry taluk, the place and the movable property found therein were taken possession of under the Unlawful Association Ordinance, No. IV of 1932, in pursuance of a notification issued by the Government under section 3 (1) of the Ordinance. The looms found therein were not destroyed but are in the possession of the Government. About a cart-load of khaddar was taken from the Ashram to Rajahmundry town for safe custody.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know as to why this spinners' association was declared unlawful? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " It is stated there in the answer."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know *why* Government declared it unlawful? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " The hon. Member may refer to the *Fort St. George Gazette* for that information."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that 40 cart-loads of articles and books were taken away by the Police from this Ashram? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " That question has already been answered."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Is it not a fact, Sir, that when the Police took charge of the Sitanagaram Ashram they broke all the looms and furniture they found there and used those broken pieces as fuel so long as they remained there? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " No, Sir."

[18th March 1932

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Will the hon. Home Member make inquiries and then reply to my question instead of answering in this haphazard manner? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I am answering only after making inquiries."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Is the hon. Member in a position to deny my statement that the Police, when they took possession of the Ashram, took from that place more than one cart-load of articles? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I have stated in the answer that they took away only one cart-load of articles, and I have nothing to add to that."

Prosecutions at Kuppam for hoisting flags.

* 1052 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether people were prosecuted under the Ordinances for hoisting flags in their own private houses; and

(*b*) how many people at Kuppam in Chittoor district were charged under the Ordinance, their age, the circumstances under which they were brought before the Subdivisional Magistrate at Chittoor and how their cases ended?

A.—(*a*) No such cases have come to the notice of the Government.

(*b*) The hon. Member presumably refers to the Prevention of Molestation and Boycotting Ordinance. No one in Kuppam was charged under the Ordinance.

Explanation of Mr. Dodwell regarding the 'thali' incident.

* 1053 *Q.*—Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he will be pleased to place the explanation of Mr. Dodwell in the matter of the 'thali' incident on the table of the House;

(*b*) whether Mr. Dodwell has sent to the Government an apology to Mrs. Prabhu to be communicated to her;

(*c*) whether the Government have communicated the apology to Mrs. Prabhu; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The fact that Mr. Dodwell has expressed sincere regret has been published in the Government communiqué. The communication of Mr. Dodwell's letter of apology to Mrs. Prabhu is in the opinion of the Government not in the public interest.

18th March 1932]

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know what is the public interest that will be endangered by communicating this letter of Mr. Dodwell to Mrs. Prabhu? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have already referred to this in my answer to supplementary questions the other day in this House."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Has the hon. Home Member read the speech of the Home Member of the Government of India, where he said that in a similar case he has sent the letter of apology to the aggrieved party? Whether, in consideration of that, may I know whether the hon. Home Member of the Government of Madras will not follow suit and send the apology of Mr. Dodwell to the lady, Mrs. Prabhu? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have already answered this question the other day stating that nobody regrets more than the Government for this incident and that the Magistrate has apologised and that a Press Communiqué has accordingly been issued."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" I know that. My question is, will not the hon. Member send to Mrs. Prabhu the original letter of apology of Mr. Dodwell addressed to her personally? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have nothing to add to what I have said yesterday."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether the hon. Home Member will follow the example of the Secretary of State, who expressed his regret for the arrest of Dr. Paton; similarly will he send the apology of Mr. Dodwell to Mrs. Prabhu? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have already answered that question."

[*Note*.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.

DEMAND XVI—ELECTRICITY—RESERVED—*cont.*

* The hon. the President:—" Discussion on Demand XVI will now be resumed."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Mr. President, Sir, the points raised by Mr. Hutton are grave issues to be taken serious notice of by Government. One of the points that he raised was whether Government is right in adopting the policy of guaranteeing the cost of unit of current at which it is going to be supplied to individuals or bulk purchasers. Sir, if the Government is going to work the scheme at a profit, as they have said already in a previous pamphlet of theirs of 1930, I would like to know how far the policy of Government in going to the extent of guaranteeing the contractors to supply current to them at a rate 10 per cent below the rate at which current produced from coal and oil is now being supplied to them. I would like to know whether

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [18th March 1932

it is a sound financial policy on the part of Government that they should go out of the way to guarantee always a lower price for their power. If that is going to be done, are they going to insert such a clause in the agreement? If so, may I know what will be the cost to the public exchequer, and who is to be benefited by that? May I know why Government should guarantee this to the purchasers? Have they considered the fact that the moment they enter into such a contract the price of coal and oil will be reduced? Have they contemplated such a contingency? Have they thought over the matter as to what they should do in case the price of coal and the price of oil is lowered by 20 per cent or 30 per cent or 40 per cent? They have said that the Hydro-Electric scheme is going to be a profitable concern, and that by the tenth year of operation they are anticipating a return of 8·41 per cent on their investment. Now Sir, they have also said in their pamphlet of 1930 on this scheme that 'power is said to be sold in bulk to local distribution authorities who will undertake the retailing. It is considered inadvisable that the Government should undertake the distribution of power to the small consumer. The rates at which power will be sold should, within five years, average about ¾ anna per unit to these distribution authorities and will tend to decrease as the demand increases. The biggest consumers will receive power around ½ anna per unit.' Now how are they going to realize this in face of the agreement they propose to enter into. Now will they not have to reduce the price of a unit of their current to 2 pies if the suppliers of current through coal and oil compete with them? Then, Sir, they say in their pamphlet that 'a return of 8·41 per cent is anticipated on the investment by the tenth year of operation. In common with all projects of this nature, the first few years will, however, be unremunerative, but later, all operation and interest charges will be met, and a small and increasing surplus may be expected.' I want to know, Sir, whether with a reduction in the price of current supplied by the electric power consequent on the reduced price of current supplied by coal and oil they will be able to cover all these interest charges, etc.? I fail to see how they can achieve this. Then again, Sir, they say 'the surplus from revenue after meeting all operation and ordinary interest charges is estimated to exceed Rs. 3 lakhs by the tenth year, with a tendency to increase as the power system expands. It will be realized that the greater the demand for power, the cheaper will it become and the larger the profits of the undertaking.' I wonder what the policy of the Government is going to be in the face of these things.

"Then with regard to subsidization by private enterprises, I do not agree with the hon. Member for the Chamber of Commerce that they should not be bound. There is the State Aid to Industries Act which enables private industrial concerns to apply for aid and if the Government thinks that the going concerns are good concerns and that they are classed as an indigenous system, it is bound to help them. When they are entitled to claim some aid on that ground and when there is

18th March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

the State Aid to Industries Act, Government are bound to support them; and in face of that fact I do not know how the hon. Member for the Chamber of Commerce questioned that right of private enterprisers. On the other hand I feel coercive process should be applied by Government to make all these industrial concerns to take to electric power for running their industries. As it is, it is a matter left to the owners and proprietors of private concerns and the Government. With regard to aiding and encouraging industries by encouraging them to substitute electric power for power produced by coal or oil it is certainly a sound policy in the interests of the development of cottage and indigenous industries. But the question of guaranteeing to these purchasers that they would always get electric current at a particular rate is as a policy pernicious and will lead to enormous deficit of public revenue."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I propose to speak on this motion to invite the attention of Government, and particularly that of the hon. Law Member to the hardship caused to the Erode and Salem Municipalities because of the licence granted to a private company. Government as well as hon. Members of this House are aware under what circumstances licences have been refused to the Erode and Salem Municipalities. Grant of licences having been refused, I request Government to see that some concession is shown to these municipalities. The Erode and Salem Municipalities are being treated in the same way as private consumers. I want Sir, that better treatment should be meted out to them.

"The Octavius Steel Company to whom licence has been granted by the Government charge concession rate for the energy supplied to the South Indian Railway. The Railway Company is supplied energy in bulk and they have their own distribution. I want that the Government should treat the municipalities at least on a par with the South Indian Railway. The municipality will be in a better position to light the street, their own institutions such as schools, markets, etc. Otherwise these municipalities will be in a difficult position and it will not be possible for them to take their supply from the Octavius Steel Company. I understand the Erode Municipality has not agreed to take the supply from the Octavius Steel Company on account of this hardship. So I request to treat the Municipal Council of Erode as a bulk consumer like the South Indian Railway Company and charge lower rates. I do not think this is an unreasonable demand. I also wish to speak on the draft agreement which is now under consideration and which is to be executed between the Municipal Council of Coimbatore and Government. In charging the demand rate for the supply of electricity to municipality Government propose to take only the quantity of power that will be taken up by the Coimbatore Municipality. The Council's contention is that the total quantity of power that will be consumed both by the municipality and by the mills within the municipal limits, should be taken together and the rate fixed. Under the terms of the agreement the greater the quantity of power that will be taken the lower will be the rate. I will just instance an

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar] [18th March 1932

example. If a municipality were to take thousand units of power then the rate will be, say, seven pies per unit. If it were to take 1,500 units the rate will be 6½ pies. So also for the mills. If they take certain quantity the rate is seven pies. If the bulk increases then the rate gets reduced. I want that both the quantities that will be consumed by the municipality and the mills together should be taken and fix the rate. Otherwise it will be most difficult for the municipality and the mills to pay the demand charge. This I don't consider to be an unreasonable request on the part of the municipal councils. Sir, the Octavius Steel Company are distributing power both to Salem and Erode and in charging the rate they take the total quantity for both Erode and Salem, even though the high tension line between these stations belongs to the Government. When a company is treating in a way I do not see why the municipalities which are the limbs of Government should be treated in a different way."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"I do not think that we should charge Government with negligence or not doing its duty properly in offering this temptation to the consumers of power that will be generated in the Pykara electrical scheme. Sir, I am one of those who think that the Government in trying to develop the natural resources of the country for the public benefit must themselves do it stictly on business lines. I believe that any businessman in trying to sell his wares will occasionally have to offer his ware at even some loss to him initially with the possibility of recouping it later on. You see the competition between the Standard Oil Company and other oil companies and the way in which they are occasionally trying to reduce their prices to get business. If the Government does the same thing in order to induce the consumers to take to electrical power, I do not think it is a step in the wrong direction provided the Government is sure that ultimately they can run this business in a beneficial scale. There is another aspect, Sir, so far as this Presidency is concerned. The resources for developing hydro-electric power in this Presidency are vast. Our resources so far as oil and coal are concerned are little. Particularly every ounce of oil and every ton of coal has to be imported from outside this Presidency or India. Such being the case, when we have ample source of power it is the bounden duty of Government to see that in future coal and oil are not imported into this Presidency and its place is taken by hydro-electric power. Unless Government comes to the conclusion that it is absolutely impossible to compete with coal and oil, I am one who thinks that, even if some initial loss is necessary, Government should try all possible means of inducing people to take to electricity so that in future we may not import coal or oil in this Presidency. So far as that is concerned, I really do not think we should charge this Government with negligence for not having done its duty, for having offered a reduction of price, I believe only temporarily, to induce people to take to power. But my charge against the Government is that it is not doing all it should in the matter of developing hydro-electric power. Nothing in this direction has so far been done except in the south. The

18th March 1932] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

possibilities of developing electricity out of the currents in rivers are not inconsiderable. Why should they not investigate them properly so that when financial condition improves they may take up the schemes. There is a great possibility of using the waters of Kistna for having a very good project. The waters of Kistna can be taken down from somewhere near Srisailam in Kurnool district by a canal and let down to a depth 3 or 4 hundred feet to generate electricity. There is this possibility. I do not know what steps Government have taken to investigate the possibility of such schemes. There are other schemes in Vizagapatam and Ganjam districts. I do not think Government have taken any steps to see these possibilities are investigated and taken on hand.

" There is one other direction in which I would invite the attention of the Government. I do not know in whose portfolio the subject will come whether it is the Law Member, or the Minister for Agriculture and Industries. Where there is no possibility of taking up big hydro-electric schemes there are possibilities of small schemes by using oil or steam. I mean small plants which could generate electricity, which can be supplied to ryots for agricultural purposes and small industries, particularly cottage industries. I do not think Government have taken so far any steps to investigate this possibility. Some time ago I was told that some enquiries were set on foot by the Agricultural department to find out whether a small scheme to generate electricity is possible and whether such electricity could be supplied to the ryots in some parts of the districts. In my own district some investigation was held. What became of it and whether Government found small generating plants for generating electricity to be used in pumping water useful or not I do not know. This is a step in the proper direction. We know how absolutely dependent we are on rain and there are no other means by which a group of ryots can pump out water from wells for agricultural purposes. Government are in duty bound to see to it. It is a direction in which I would urge Government to take steps. Let them properly investigate and have schemes ready so that when finance improves such schemes may be taken up. Another direction in which I want some information is this. What is the standard or test by which Government is going to fix prices of electric power that are generated under these schemes. I want Government to look upon it purely as a business proposition. Whatever the cost price to Government be, it is necessary and desirable that Government should mainly be guided by the consideration whether it is worth while to the consumer to pay for it. In case the consumer finds it more useful to use electric power in preference to oil, I do not see why Government having the interests of the tax-payer ought not to derive as much profit as possible from it. In cases where it is not possible to expect profits but will have to bear losses it has to conduct business very carefully. Where there is a chance of getting a profit it should be used in the interests of the Presidency. So, I hope Government will be very very careful in investigating how far Government can make a profit out of them and what the necessary

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [18th March 1932

charges are that will induce the consumer to take up power. So in coming to an arrangement with consumers of electricity I hope Government will remember its duty of charging as much as it is worth for the consumer to bear without other considerations.

" At the same time I am in favour of the Government giving some consideration initially so that people may be induced to use electric power more and more, which will also enable Government to develop more such schemes in future."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I have only a few words to say. They said that when the Pykara Electric Scheme was completed electricity could be brought even to Madras, provided the South Indian Railway people took electricity from them. Now the South Indian Railway people have got their own scheme for producing electricity. In these circumstances, will it be profitable for the Pykara Electric Scheme to supply electricity to Madras? I am glad to hear that the Pykara Electric Scheme will be completed within the time and money allotted for it. I congratulate the hon. the Law Member for that. It was also said that with the development of electricity all over the Presidency by tapping all the resources, we should be able to carry electricity into our villages and even to hamlets. I want to know from the hon. the Law Member what steps he is going to take after the completion of the Pykara Scheme for tapping other resources. For instance, there are the Periyar falls, Palni falls, and as my Friend Mr. Daniel Thomas said, the Papanasam falls. Is the hon. the Law Member going to take up all or any of these schemes immediately after the completion of this scheme? I hope he will do that. There are also falls, I learn, in the Godavari district. So I request the hon. the Law Member to see that all these resources are tapped, though not all at once, at least gradually, so that we may have plenty of electricity in course of time not only to light our cities but also to supply to the rural parts, to carry on cottage industries."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Mr. President, during the last year's voting on Budget Demands, I remember I had made reference to the necessity of supply of electricity to the wayside stations, between Salem and Erode. I also remember that I had pointed out then, that there are some big unions which may take advantage of this power for street lighting, etc., purposes provided they are supplied at their place at considerably low cost. I do not know what steps have been taken by the Government in this direction. I should like to know whether any of the unions have applied for supply of electricity to them for lighting, etc., purposes and what orders, if any, have been passed thereon.

" The introduction of electricity, it is needless to say, in rural parts will very largely help in the development of cottage and other industries. Rice mills, oil presses and other concerns may utilise electricity with advantage if it is supplied to them at a cheap rate. It may also be made to help the agricultural operations a great deal. So, I impres

18th March 1932] [Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder]

once again on the hon. the Law Member that he will see his way to introduce electricity into the country-side wherever possible, and make the people realize the advantage they can derive from it.

" Some time ago, to an interpellation of mine whether electric supply to Salem will be completed in the near future, the Government were pleased to say that it would be completed before the end of December. I am sorry, Sir, that more than 2½ months have elapsed after the time promised and still the Salem streets have not been provided with electric lights. I request the Government to ask the company to expedite matters and to supply electricity to Salem as early as possible.

" Sir, I understand that as soon as the project at Mettur is completed, at least a small hydro-electric scheme will be put into operation for the daily use on the dam line, etc., places at Mettur. Since there is already a proposal and every facility at command, that scheme may be developed into a big one at a considerably low cost and supply from that may be taken up for Erode, Salem and other places. If this scheme is developed as suggested, I think it will be of much help to those parts, and the villages also will have the benefit of enjoying electric power at their doors.

" In this connexion I also like to make a special request to the hon. the Law Member to be lenient in the matter of giving electrical power free of cost or at a nominal cost for pumping of water to the high level reservoir at Mettur, for the water-supply from Mettur Dam to Salem. This question of water-supply from Mettur to Salem seems to be mainly dependent on the maintenance cost, and if the Government insist on charging full rates for the electrical energy needed for the purpose, the municipality cannot bear that burden, and the present proposal of the supply of drinking water will be far from realization. Even if the Government is to agree to the request of the municipality for a free supply of electricity for the said pumping operations, I do not think the Government will lose much, but, at the same time they will be doing a distinct service to the people of the metropolis of my district. So, Sir, I request the hon. the Law Member to give his favourable consideration to this matter, when the question comes up before him."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Sir, my Friend Mr. Hutton referred to two points. One was this, namely, that there is a proposal by the Government to insert a clause in the agreement which is to be entered into between the Government and consumers of power to the effect that the tariff which is to be given to these consumers will be reduced if the price of coal or oil goes down below 10 per cent. I may say that it is as yet only a proposal and that no agreements have been entered into. The object of this proposal is to make electric power available at a cheap rate. I was glad to note that my Friend Mr. Hutton himself in the course of his observations said that there was in this case no question of competition between Government enterprise and private enterprise. My friend was not here in the Council in previous years, when the desire was expressed in this Council on several occasions—and I believe that it is on sound lines—that public

utility concerns—and particularly big ones, such as the Pykara Scheme, should be kept in the hands of the Government themselves and should not be entrusted to private parties. It was in accordance with this wish that the Government themselves undertook this Pykara Scheme. And having sunk such a large sum as over a crore and a quarter upon this project, as my Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar said, it is but right that the Government should try to secure a reasonable profit on this undertaking. In fact it is an obligation which is due to the tax-payers from the Government. I may say for the information of the House that the undertaking will work at a loss instead of profit in the early stages, but the Government hopes to derive some profit at the end of the tenth year. After the third year or the fourth year, Government may begin to earn a profit which will rise to 8 per cent roughly, and they do not expect to receive a higher profit than 8 per cent, speaking in round figure. My Friend, Mr. Hutton, as a businessman, must know, I suppose he knows it already, that the introduction of electric power has helped industries. Thus, in addition to the aforesaid obligation which the Government owe to the tax-payer, introduction of power at a cheap rate benefits the country generally. It is in accordance with this principle, and in accordance with this obligation of the Government towards the tax-payer that the Government proposes to introduce what is called the guarantee clause. So, I submit that there is nothing objectionable in the insertion of this clause. My friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, has gone very much further than Mr. Hutton. The point he has raised is that if there be a combine of coal and oil companies for the purpose of reducing the price of coal or oil to a very small amount, then the Government will have to reduce their price for electric power to a lower figure than the price of coal or oil. The answer to that is obvious. The owners of these coal companies or oil companies act like prudent businessmen. I do not act on the supposition—no Government will act on the supposition—that extraordinary occurrences such as the one referred to by my friend will happen. I do not think that these companies are likely ever to combine for the purpose of reducing the price to such a low limit, for the sole object of spitting at the Government. Such improbable occurrences cannot be taken into consideration. It is not a matter of practical politics. That danger is not likely to arise and we do not take into consideration the possibility of such occurrences.

" Then the other point referred to by Mr. Hutton is this. I am glad to note that on this point also his observations were not altogether against the Government. He referred to the Budget figures and said that there is a provision of Rs. 25,000, with which it is intended to be satisfied to help small mill-owners for the purpose of enabling them to purchase the necessary apparatus and machinery on a hire-purchase system. My friend said that the principle on which that sum is provided is sound, but his objection was that this is not the time when the finances of the Province are at an ebb to proffer such help. I beg to differ from him there. Now, my friend knows very well that this power from the Pykara project is calculated to be ready by

18th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

the end of this year 1932. It is on that calculation that all the provisions in the Budget have been made. As a matter of fact when I 12 noon inspected the Pykara project, I came to the conclusion that it would be possible to distribute power much earlier this year than was originally anticipated, probably in October of this year. In any case, whether in October or December, power will be available soon, and seeing that power will be available, and seeing that it is the result of an expenditure of about 125 lakhs of rupees, it is to the interest of the Government and the interest of the tax-payer whose money has been spent, that the Government should derive some income. Even if they are not able to derive any profit during the first year, they must be able to get some profit after some years. With that object in view it is intended to induce small mills and other business concerns to take power from Government. It is with a view to help these small concerns to obtain the necessary working machinery for them that this small sum of Rs. 25,000 is provided. Probably my friend may himself be aware that this system of helping small consumers to take power sold by the Government exists not only here but exists all over the world. I am told by persons who know something of these things that this system of advancing monies to small concerns for setting up machinery and other things exists in Chille, America and Europe. It is in accordance with that principle—I believe it is a sound principle—that this small sum of Rs. 25,000 is provided to assist the owners of small mills and other small business people. After all I am sure that the oil companies —we are not much concerned with coal companies because we do not have many coal companies here—will not suffer in any way. I am sure that with their industry and perseverance they will be able to tap new sources. It is not possible to take electricity to all parts of rural areas. But it is certainly possible for the oil companies to take their oil to every house, to every nook and corner. After all, the introduction of this electric power is not going to interfere in any way with the development of private industries of oil or coal."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether the Government will be in a position to sell the power at cheaper rate than private companies will be able to sell?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"I am sorry that I am not able to answer all these questions now.

"I may say that my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, answered the first objection of Mr. Hutton.

"Then my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, raised an objection, viz., that the rates for power fixed by the Government are very high. My hon. Friend said that the fuel that is now used in his mill is cheaper than electricity. With reference to this statement I may tell my friend that it is not the object of the Government to prevent these companies from taking power by fixing high rates. On the other hand the Government are anxious to get their loan and co-operation. Government can very well understand that these mills will not come and take power from Government if the rate is fixed too high. Again, the

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [18th March 1932

Government cannot compel any of these mill-owners to take power from Government. It is to the interests of the Government that they should fix a reasonable rate and it is to the interest of the mill-owners that they should take this Government power; my hon. Friends Messrs. Winter and Ramalingam Chettiyar want that the Government should be prepared to consider these details. I can give them this undertaking, viz., that the Government will ask their officers to go into the whole question of rates of power. I may meet my Friend Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar on my way to Ooty to discuss this question on; or Coimbatore being so near to Ooty, he can meet me at Ooty. I shall speak to Major Howard to meet Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar and Captain Winter and discuss this subject with them and see whether an agreement is not possible. If my presence is necessary, I shall take part in the discussion.

" My friend, Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, made a plea on behalf of Salem and Erode Municipal Councils. He said that though the licences have been granted to Messrs. Octavius, Steel & Co., some special concessions might be granted to Erode and Salem Municipalities. I do not know whether it will be possible to do that now having regard to the terms of the agreement which the Government have entered into with Messrs. Octavius, Steel & Co. However if the licensees consent to it, I shall consider the matter. Beyond that it will not be possible for me to make any statement now with reference to this matter.

" Another request of my friend is to take the whole quantity of high tension power consumed by all the mills in Coimbatore which require high tension power and also the whole quantity of low tension power which will be distributed to consumers by the Coimbatore Municipality and then fix a rate for the total quantity, which will be very cheap. I believe that an agreement has been already entered into between the Government and the Coimbatore Municipality—and I do not know whether my friend made these suggestions at the time of the agreement. My friend says that he made these suggestions and if he has made them they will come to the Government for consideration. I cannot promise how their ultimate decision will be.

" My friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, supported the Government against the objections raised by my hon. Friends, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, and another. He made some new suggestions for instance, the suggestion with regard to the fixing of price for power. In fixing the price, several items are taken into consideration such as the cost of production, the quantity that is consumed, the cost of transmission and a reasonable profit. It is after taking all these items into consideration that the Government ultimately fixes the price.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, then asked whether projects other than Pykara are under contemplation. Of course the Government are anxious to have as many projects as possible, but the only difficulty is finance. I am afraid that we must wait . . . (A voice: ' What about investigations?')

" Even investigation costs something.

18th March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

"Then my hon. Friend, Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar, wanted to know what other projects the Government have in view. I may tell my hon. Friend that as soon as the Pykara Project is completed at least two other projects are likely to be taken up. One is what is known as the Periyar Project. If that is completed, it will supply power to Madura, Tinnevelly and other neighbouring places. The other project is the Mettur Project. The Mettur dam will be completed soon for irrigation purposes. After it is completed, there is an idea of generating power from that also. This again ultimately depends upon the financial powers of the Government. The desire of the Government is to have as many schemes as possible. It will take at least three or four years before the Periyar Project is taken up.

"There are also other projects which the Government have under contemplation such as the Colaba Project in the north, and the Papanasam scheme in the south and so on. Major Howard has investigated the Papanasam scheme with reference to which my hon. Friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, has given notice of a cut motion. There again Major Howard is of opinion that the scheme will cost something like Rs. 1,33,000 and that unless some big industries are started in the neighbourhood which would consume electric power it will not be desirable for the Government to undertake this work. Some two years ago there were negotiations between Messrs. Walker & Co., and the Government, and the company wanted some concessions with reference to this Papanasam scheme. Their idea was to start a caustic soda factory in Tuticorin and also to start a factory to manufacture artificial silk in the Tinnevelly forests. If those two ideas had fructified, it would have been possible to construct a dam for the generation of hydro-electric power in Papanasam, but when the negotiations were going on the company went into liquidation.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, stated that Government should make arrangements for supplying Salem town with electricity very soon. I believe that Salem town is now receiving a supply from the licensees, Messrs. Octavius, Steel and Company. The Municipal Chairman, Salem, wrote to me two or three letters requesting me to open the electric works at Salem. The representative of Octavius, Steel and Company also wrote to me making the same request. I was also very desirous of going there, but on account of the work here I could not do so. That was a month ago. Seeing that the request was made a month ago, I think they must be distributing power now. In any case, if they have not already begun to do that, I believe, that they must be ready to do it very soon. My hon. Friend, Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder, also asked me whether it was not possible to supply electricity to the wayside stations between Erode and Salem, in which unions exist. I believe that the licensees contemplate doing so. In what stage their negotiations with the Government are, I am not able to say now. He also suggested that electricity should be given freely or at very low rate for the purpose of pumping water to the Municipal town of Salem. The question of water-supply is a matter for the Minister

[Sir M. Krishnan Nayar] [18th March 1932

in charge of Public Health. I dare say he will note these observations made by my hon. Friend."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Does he also fix the rates for the electricity?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No.

" I believe that the observations I have made have satisfied the hon. the Mover of the motion and that he will have therefore no objection to withdraw the motion."

* Mr. A. W. Hutton:—" The object of my motion was to raise a discussion on this subject and I have been successful in that. I hoped the hon. Member would give some definite assurances on the question of the guarantees, but I see he could not have gone further. He has promised to arrange a discussion between the Chief Engineer and a few Members of this House. In view of this, I beg to withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—" I beg to move—

'That the allotment of Rs. 34,62,000 *for Electricity be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, the hon. the Law Member has partially anticipated my motion and given me some facts in connexion with it. I wish now to place before him certain other aspects of the question which might induce the Government to reconsider the question. The hon. Member referred to certain companies which were expected to take power from the Hydro-Electric Scheme and make it a profitable undertaking. He also said that since the companies failed, the Government were not able to undertake the Hydro-Electric Scheme. Now the Tuticorin and Palamcottah Municipalities which are in close proximity to each other have begun electrification schemes. They have entered into contract with some companies for the supply of electric power, but the contract is only for a short period. Tuticorin also is likely to follow suit very soon. Besides the power required for municipal purposes, a good deal of power will be required for lights and fans in private houses. I think the supply of electric energy to these municipal areas will be sufficient to make the Hydro-Electric Scheme a profitable one. I also think that once there is a regular supply of electric energy in a place, various companies will come forward to start industries. It often happens that the existence of a source of power supply acts as an inducement to new industries springing into existence and consuming the power supplied. The power supply and industrial development act and react on each other. If in some places industries are brought into existence for the purpose of making an electric supply scheme profitable, on the other hand, the existence of an electric supply scheme stimulates the establishment of new industries. In the light of the above facts, I request the Government to reconsider the scheme, if not at present, at least some

time hence. Let them not shelve the scheme once for all but let it be kept as it were in a state of suspended animation, so that it may be taken on hand when a suitable opportunity presents itself."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" The Government will only be too glad to start the scheme if they can work it as a profitable concern. The Papanasam Project is a huge project costing about Rs. 1,33,00,000 and as there are at present no industries in the neighbourhood to consume the power and make the scheme profitable, the Government have not undertaken the scheme. If the Tuticorin and Tinnevelly Municipalities are willing to start some industries in order to consume the power generated by the scheme, the Government will render them every help possible."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XVI for a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,62,000 for Electricity was put and carried; the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

> '*That Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,73,62,200 *for " Education—Transferred ".*' "

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" Sir, I move—

> '*That the allotment of Rs.* 1,73,62,200 *for " Education—Transferred " be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" I want to criticize the policy of the Ministry in respect of Education. If as a result of the discussion I raise now, definite points for the consideration of the Government and the modification of its policy are raised and if those points meet with the approval of this House substantially, and next year this time, the points remain where they are, it will be time enough to make a motion for censure.

" Let me first take up the question of the policy of the Government with regard to elementary education. What is the Government's policy in this matter? Whatever it is, it does not seem to guarantee an adequate return for the money spent on elementary education. It is not an inconsiderable amount that is spent on it. I think too much attention has been paid dnring the last ten years to the fad of extension of elementary education. I think it is high time that attention was concentrated on a progressive scheme of consolidation and efficiency. Now the grants to elementary schools are dependent on the number of teachers employed in the schools. One result of it is, grants are given to schools on whose establishment rolls there are only the names of teachers without there being teachers. It has even gone beyond that point. Grants are made to schools which exist only for the purpose of the grant. They exist only in name and there are actually no such schools at all. Another point is this: when you make the grants dependent on the number of teachers employed, it reduces itself in

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [18th March 1932

effect, to a system poviding an asylum for good-for-nothing men who are no good as teachers, not being substantially removed in point of qualification from those who are to be taught in those schools. I think it is high time that Government reverted to a system which obtained previously, *viz.*, the system of results grant. Such a system would make the grant dependent upon the pupils taught and the results of the teaching imparted. It would also result in the improvement of the efficiency of the teaching; really efficient schools would get good grants and worthless schools would go down. Good-for-nothing teachers would not attract boys into their schools and they would die a natural death, being replaced by efficient schools and efficient teachers. We must get rid of a system which encourages swollen lists of teachers and lists of non-existing schools and multiplies the number of unqualified or ill-qualified teachers. We must put a stop to this huge waste of public money and secure an adequate return for the amount spent by embarking upon a new system of teaching grants to primary schools.

" At the same time, seeing that as many as about 25,000 candidates sit for the S.S.L.C. examination each year, there should be no difficulty in getting teachers of sufficient qualification even for the lowest of these elementary schools. We should get rid of Elementary Lower grade and Elementary Higher grade trained teachers. You can afford to make it a rule thereafter that there should be secondary trained teachers for all elementary schools. As I said before, when you have such a number of S.S.L.C. men why not insist upon an improved quality of teaching by securing Secondary grade trained teachers?

0· 1. " If any difficulty is felt with reference to Muhammadan, Adi-Dravida or women teachers where the qualifications I suggest may be felt to be a bit high, I say, do not make any difference in their favour by *lowering the standard of qualification of the teacher, but* encourage those communities also to contribute their quota of trained teachers by a system of scholarships and stipends to teachers from those communities. Similarly in the case of women teachers, to whatever communities they may belong, encourage the raising of the qualifications in their cases also by a generous system of stipends and scholarships. If these suggestions are considered seriously by the hon. the Education Minister without letting time slip in these days of financial depression, and if he will formulate and work out a scheme on these lines even during the current year with the help of the Director of Public Instruction—with whom I hope it may be possible for the hon. Minister to work in close co-ordination—I think satisfactory results may be expected even in the course of the year ahead.

" I will now come to the topic of Secondary Education. The progress in this department of education has been checked to a great deal by an unprogressive system of teaching grants. The schools which are ably managed, which have a large number of pupils, which have really capable teaching staff, are penalized by the present system of Government grants. But schools which are very thin in which the quality of the teachers is so poor that they are not able to attract sufficient number

18th March 1932] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

of pupils and in which the problem of management becomes therefore all the more difficult, such schools necessarily have larger deficits; and the greater the inefficiency, the fewer the school-going population that is catered for, and the less efficient the teacher, the more is the grant you are giving. This is a premium on inefficiency. This is really a compassionate allowance to those whose place is in a charitable asylum. I think this system must go. In the case of the better class of schools, even the poor teaching grant that was being allowed has been cancelled this year, so that even the little encouragement that was being given under the Grant-in-Aid Code to the better-managed schools, is now gone and the policy of the Government is directly to impair efficiency and discourage sound management. I think, Sir, it is time that a radical revision of the Grant-in-Aid Code was undertaken. Ministers have come and Ministers have gone; but no Minister has had the courage to take up this question of the revision of the Grant-in-Aid Code with courage. If our secondary schools have fallen below the mark in shaping the character of the pupils in their charge, I have no hesitation in stating that at least one of the main contributory causes is this deplorable policy. You cannot really get much out of a substantially discontented set of teachers. In their contentment lies the shaping of the development of the wards entrusted to their charge. I think, therefore, it is time that the system of teaching grants should be revised, so as to express Government's appreciation of the efficient work carried out by secondary schools both in respect of quantity and quality in terms of the teaching grants awarded to them.

"I now pass on to University and Collegiate education. It is no doubt a matter of congratulation that, where there was only one University, there are now three Universities two of which are aiming at becoming residential Universities. The progress of these two new Universities will, however, require to be watched with care, as otherwise, you may not get adequate return for the money spent on them. It is not very clear that the two new Universities are shaped exactly as they were expected to be. At any rate one of them has of late shown a tendency not to be able to retain its lecturing personnel for any considerable time after entertainment. Now, that is a feature not calculated to enhance the prestige of the University or to inspire confidence in its authorities. We are spending huge amounts upon that University and if things do not improve, it would probably be time for the Government to think of undertaking a revision of the amount of the grant to the University.

"In his latest Administration Report the Director of Public Instruction has stated that the reorganization of the higher services of the Educational department has been lying over rather too long. For about ten years now, no orders have been passed by any Minister on this vexed question of reorganization. Naturally there is a good deal of discontent among the members of the services who are affected. It is high time that the Government made up its mind to pass final orders on the reorganization of the superior services. This is a service in

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [18th March 1932

which Indianization of the higher ranks has gone on to a very great extent. If therefore, with an Indian Minister in charge of Education, the large number of Indians in the higher ranks of the services have had to wait for a whole decade before any orders can be passed on the reorganization scheme, it is a melancholy thought which occurs to anyone, that we, Indians are unable to make up our minds to help our countrymen and as to the extent that we would be prepared to help them. Men with excellent qualifications are dissatisfied with this inordinately long delay. I think therefore that the hon. the Minister will do well with the assistance of the coming Director of Public Instruction to take up this subject, and pass final orders so as to ensure satisfaction all round, particularly in view of the number of years these promising recruits have spent in anticipation."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. President, Sir, there has been a reduction of about Rs. 55 lakhs in the Education Budget. From Rs. 286 and odd lakhs in 1930-31, it has come down to Rs. 231 lakhs in the coming year. I think, Sir, Education should be the last subject in which Government should think of retrenchment. It is not cutting down of expenditure but wiser direction of expenditure that is required in this matter. The biggest problem facing the Education Minister to-day is the establishment of a satisfactory system of mass education and the creation thereby of an educated electorate capable of exercising intelligently the primary functions of citizenship. The Government have had before them the results of Mr. Statham's Survey of Elementary Education, the report of Mr. Champion, the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission and the suggestions of the Hartog Committee. Yet, Sir, the appalling wastage in education is continuing. I suppose I need not draw the attention of the hon. Minister to what the head of the department himself says in the latest Administration Report on Education. The figures quoted there reveal, as he says, quite a disquieting state of affairs. There is a drop of more than a million in the number when the pupils of the first standard reach the fifth standard. If reaching the fourth or the fifth standard is taken as the test of literacy, we must say that a great deal of money that is spent on elementary education is wasted. We spend more than half of the Education Budget—nearly Rs. 145 lakhs—on elementary education and the Director says that, unless more effective steps are taken to prevent wastage, the return for the very large expenditure will continue to be inadequate. I want to ask the hon. Minister, Sir, what more effective steps he proposes to take to put a stop to this appalling wastage in elementary education, how he proposes to prolong the duration of school life in elementary schools, how he proposes to make students attend schools more regularly, what schemes he has in view for the consolidation and concentration of elementary schools and for contributing to the spread of permanent literacy in this Province.

" It has been pointed out, Sir, that education in rural areas must have a close relationship to the daily lives of the people. Have Government made any attempt to evolve a type of education best suited to the

18th March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

needs of our agricultural population? A new scheme of training teachers is said to have been worked up by the Presbyterian Mission at Shimoga and it is said that the Punjab Government have adopted this system. The Agricultural Commission seem to have been well-impressed by the results of this system. Have this Government considered the training of our elementary school teachers on any such new lines?

"An adequate system of adult education is absolutely necessary for attacking the problem of rural illiteracy. Government have now discovered that the amount they have been spending on night schools has been more or less a huge waste. They have decided, by a stroke of the pen, to make a large reduction in the amounts to be given to night schools. They expect to save as much as Rs. 5½ lakhs by making these reductions. I understand, Sir, that Government are considering a general scheme of adult education and of agencies to be appointed for the purpose. The amount that they have allotted in the coming Budget for adult education classes is only Rs. 9,000. It is pitifully meagre for the all-important subject of adult education.

"There is waste and ineffectiveness not only in elementary education, but throughout the whole of our educational system. The present system of higher education is not adapted to the needs of the country. Its output is greatly in excess of the country's capacity to absorb it, whether in Government employment or in the professions or in commerce and industry. The unemployment problem is assuming more serious proportions every day. It has become the biggest problem which the Education Minister has to tackle. The recommendations of the Unemployment Committee for making a readjustment of our educational programme have not been attended to. Our education, whether in elementary schools or secondary schools and colleges, has been condemned as being too literary and bookish. It is not sufficiently practical. The Arts Course predominates everywhere. The cultural side of education has been given too much attention, while the utilitarian aspect of it has been neglected. Both Mr. Statham and Sir Visweswarayya have recently drawn pointed attention to this defect in our system of higher education. Our colleges are preparing men for identical courses. Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar expressed gratification at the starting of the two new Universities in our Province. Our new Universities, Sir, are providing for the self-same courses. No provision is made in them for teaching new subjects of study correlated to the economic needs of the country. There is a great need and demand for the provision of technical and technological courses in our Universities. What is required is a re-orientation of the whole of our educational policy and a readjustment of the curricula in our schools and colleges to the needs of business and to meet the demands of the economic needs of the country.

"Before I close my remarks, Sir, I wish to say a word about the grants given to the Provincial Boy Scouts' Association. The hon. the Minister has long been connected with the scout movement, and he has been taking a great interest in boy scouts. Now, Sir, he occupies a

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [18th March 1932

very responsible and important position in the boy scout movement. I am therefore very sorry to see that in the coming Budget, the paltry sum of Rs. 10,000 usually given to the Madras Boy Scouts' Association has been reduced from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 7,500. I believe, Sir, the hon. the Minister has a very soft corner in his heart for boy scouts. May I appeal to him to take the earliest opportunity to restore this cut and to provide, if possible, larger grants for this association? He may know that other Provinces are giving larger grants than Madras and our Boy Scouts' Association has been asking for further help from the Government.

"I wish also to say a word on behalf of the poor pupil teachers in Elementary Training schools. If there is one cut which is the unkindest cut of all that is the reduction made in the stipends to be given to these poor elementary school teachers. I hope the hon. Minister will also see his way to restore the cut made in the stipends for these poor pupil teachers at as early a date as possible."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, in the Education department, the actual expenditure, for 1930–31 was Rs. 300·18 lakhs. The Budget Estimate for 1931–32 was Rs. 264·77 lakhs, while the Budget Estimate for 1932–33 is Rs. 243·31 lakhs, which is Rs. 21·46 lakhs less than the Budget Estimate for last year and Rs. 56·87 lakhs less than the actual expenditure for 1930–31. In most cases, such a reduction in the present conditions is unavoidable; but the question is whether this is going to be a permanent feature of the Education Budget. I hope not, and I believe that the Education Minister will try to restore almost all these reductions at the earliest possible opportunity. As a result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, the Government have accepted proposals resulting in a saving of Rs. 17,86,300 recurring and Rs. 91,700 non-recurring expenditure. But Government have rejected proposals resulting in a saving of Rs. 25 lakhs and odd, while they have still under consideration proposals resulting in a saving of Rs. 2,76,500. The Retrenchment Committee, I may inform the House, passed all these resolutions with the full concurrence, and in most cases, on the proposals of the head of the department. Still, I may admit that there are some recommendations of the Committee which may, if given effect to, affect education in the Province adversely. In some of these cases, some of us have dissented at the Committee meeting and in some cases we have even put in dissenting minutes. This is one of the instances which will show that the Chairman did not influence the Committee. One of the proposals which, if accepted and given effect to, will be hard on the people and adversely affect the advance of education in the Province, is: the abolition of the college department of the Brennen College, Tellicherry. There is also a loud protest against the abolition of the Government Arts College at Rajahmundry. The Tellicherry Brennen College is the only college in the whole of North Malabar. In this college most of the pupils that receive education generally belong to the non-Brahman communities including

18th March 1932] [Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

Muhammadans. There is only one Government College in South Malabar and that also in a far-off corner of the district. I have also, I may say, put in a dissenting minute in the case of this Brennen College. Then, Sir, the proposals that seem to have been accepted by the Government and that are likely to affect education in this Province are: the reduction of teaching grants to non-Government Colleges by about Rs. 15,300; reduction of teaching grants to elementary schools by Rs. 1,79,500; abolition of special grants to aided secondary schools for the improvement of the pay of teachers—about Rs. 3,18,000; reduction of stipends and stipendiary grants to teachers undergoing training in colleges and secondary schools, and elementary schools by about Rs. 3,18,800; reduction in the period of tenure of scholarships from twelve to nine months and non-award of certain scholarships—about Rs. 19,000. These are some of the most important of the proposals which seem to have been accepted by the Government; but the Minister for Education is convinced, I believe, regarding the inadvisability of the abolition or the reduction mentioned by me just now. I understand that the Minister has been good enough to assure that he will not give effect to these proposals without fully going into the question. I understand also that he feels sure that he will find sufficient money or can make equal saving without abolishing the Government College at Rajahmundry and the College department of the Brennen College at Tellicherry.

" Then, the next point I want to refer to is the education of Muslims. The Minister has been good enough to accede to our request and to appoint a Committee to go into the question of Muslim Education, and that Committee has fully gone into the question and has recently signed their report which fully explains the requirements and the urgent needs of the community in the matter of Education. All that I request the Minister is that he will be good enough to consider the recommendations of the Committee favourably and give effect to them as early as possible. I do not want to go into the details of the needs of the community because all that is required is fully set out in the report of the Committee. I think that report will be soon published and made available to the Members of this House. (An hon. Member: ' After the Budget '.)

" Another thing that I want to say is this. Up to now the Government have been conducting the S.S.L.C. examination and it is said the object of Government conducting this examination is to see that those who pass this examination are also qualified for entry into Government service. But, now I am told that the Government do not recognize the S.S.L.C. examination and that they hold another examination to test the fitness of candidates for entry into Government service. That being the case, I do not see there is any necessity for spending so much money on S.S.L.C. examinations as also the necessity for a separate Commissioner for Government examinations and other similar expenditure in connexion therewith. If the Government think that the S.S.L.C. examination is not a sufficient test for the entertainment of candidates in Government service, I think, it would be better

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad] [18th March 1932

if this S.S.L.C. *examination is not* conducted by Government any *longer.* If the S.S.L.C. *examination is* intended to be a test for entry into University courses, I think the University will take care of itself, by having some entrance examination if they consider necessary. I hope, Sir, this matter will receive careful consideration at the hands of the hon. Minister and that he will take the earliest opportunity to see that the examination that is conducted by the Services Commission is continued and the S.S.L.C. examination is no longer conducted by Government."

After Lunch (3 p.m.)

* Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish to deal with certain aspects of the policy of the Education department which have not been touched by the previous speakers. The first question I shall deal with is that of religious education in schools. This is a long-standing question which has not yet been fully solved. The question is whether religious education should be given side by side with secular education. In the case of the Christian community, more especially the Catholic community, the feeling is that secular education should be given in a religious atmosphere and that is the opinion also, I believe, of the Muslim community. I would like to explain somewhat the position taken by the Catholic community, as there is considerable hostility towards this attitude of the Christian community on the part of non-Christians, especially the Hindus. What is felt is that if you are to have religious education side by side with secular education, you are bound to have schools for various denominations and this will create a separatist tendency and is against the national sentiment. I do not agree with them on this point, for even if to some extent it may create a separatist tendency, the advantages of having secular education in a religious atmosphere and the arguments in favour of it are so strong that they must override the other considerations. More and more is it being felt all over the world that it is not possible to divorce secular from religious education and that for the good of the country it is necessary that secular education should be given in a religious atmosphere. I would like here to quote the opinion of such a great authority as Mr. Arthur Mayhew who was once a Director of Public Instruction in Northern India and this is what he says:

'None can have expressed more often or more emphatically than I have done during the last five years the conviction that the most effective kind of education must be based on and promoted with religion. In this conviction I am at one with the Roman Catholic Church. There is general unanimity here regarding the close and vital connexion between education and religion. I have recently returned from a Conference of Public School headmasters and teachers which has been anxiously and keenly debating not whether but by what means religious education should be made a more integral part of public school life than it is at present. All alike were convinced that religious education could not be isolated from other subjects taught in the school or from the general life of the school.'

'The Catholic case for the education of Catholic children in Catholic schools is not a new one and has been held in all Catholic countries and at all times against all opposition. A staunch protestant Mr. Amasa Thornton wrote in regard to this contention in America—

18th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

"The Catholic church has insisted that it is its duty to educate the children of the Catholic faith in such a way as to fix religious truths in the youthful mind. For this it has been assailed by the non-Catholic population and Catholics have been charged with being enemies of the liberties of the people and the flag." '

"The same charge is being made here.

"He further says:—

'Any careful observer in the City of New York can see that the only people, as a class, who are teaching the children in the way that will secure the future for the best civilization, are the Catholics; and although a protestant of the firmest kind, *I believe the time has come to recognize this fact, and for us all to* lay aside religious prejudices and patriotically meet the question.'

"The same question has arisen in different countries. It has arisen in Ireland also and there Mr. J. T. Gwynn, who was formerly of the Indian Civil Servise in this Presidency said:

'I accept the Catholic doctrine that the parent has a natural right to give the child the kind of schooling he thinks best and that it is the function of the State to forwarded and not to override the wishes of the parents.'

"I have raised this question because it has not been fully recognized by the Educational department that the Catholic attitude is the correct one. The best proof that this principle is a sound one is that it has been recognized by the League of Nations, and in the Post-war Minorities Guarantee Treaties every one of which, so far as I am aware, contains a provision that religious education may be imparted side by side with secular education and that if any religious minority demands that such a thing should take place that demand should be conceded. In fact rules have been laid down that if more than forty parents require that schools should be maintained by the State for any religious minority such a school should be established and that if at least 10 parents require that a class should be established in a common school for imparting religious education for that minority, that class should be established. It is therefore obvious that such provisions would not have been made but for the feeling that they are absolutely necessary in the interests of peace and harmonious living of the different minorities in a State. I find that repeatedly this question arises between me and my non-Christian friends. They sometimes feel when I am asking for separate schools for Catholic children, that I am not national, but I wish to impress on all people and on all non-Christians that this is an absolutely necessary privilege and that it is in the interests of the State. It has been practically conceded in the case of Muslims and what has been conceded in the case of Muslims, I maintain should also be conceded in the case of the Christians. After all this will really not cost very much to the Government because it will always be possible to have side by side Catholic schools and non-Catholic schools and that it is always possible in certain districts to have classes consisting of 10 or more children in which religious education for a minority can be given. But, unfortunately, it is felt that our demand for separate schools is not patriotic and the District Educational Councils do not look upon this demand of ours with sympathy. It is somewhat strange that in India, where religious feeling is so strong, that this kind of intolerance

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [18th March 1932

is taking place. I have hopes that in this country where the tradition of tolerance is much stronger than in any other country, this attitude of ours will be recognized as it has been recognized in other countries and that sooner or later definite rules will be laid down such as those which have been provided in the Minorities Treaties, which will allay our dissatisfaction.

"Time after time, we have represented to the Government how our communities are handicapped in the matter of facilities for opening and maintenance of educational institutions. When Dr. Subbarayan visited South Kanara, while he was the Chief Minister, some of us waited on him in deputation and presented a memorandum stating our difficulties and I am glad to say that my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, took a very statesmanlike view and I wish he were here, so that I may tell him to his face that he acted most sympathetically—and this is what he said at the Budget meeting in March 1930:

'A deputation of influential Roman Catholics waited on me when I visited Mangalore about two years ago. I then told them that if there was room for two schools in a particular place because the number of pupils are such that two schools are necessary, then Government will be willing to advise the Educational Council not only to recognize these two schools, but also to aid them. If the Roman Catholic Community feel that it is not right for them to attend secular schools run by other communities, as is the case in some places in South Kanara, and there is also no need for separate schools because the number of pupils is such that they can all be taken into one school, I told the representatives of the deputation who waited on me that it should not be possible to grant them aid, because then there would not be enough money to go all round for purposes of elementary education. But, at the same time, I said I would get the Educational Councils concerned to grant them recognition so that if the community really felt that they should have separate schools they should continue to have them.'

"A Government Order was passed in 1929 which practically gave effect to this opinion of Dr. Subbarayan, but unfortunately that Government Order did not go sufficiently far enough and was not worded in sufficiently definite terms to prevent the District Educational Councils to over-ride the provisions made in it. Then, Sir, when the present Minister visited South Kanara, we again represented our difficulties and pointed out that until our claims were satisfied there will always be a feeling of resentment in the community. We therefore suggested that some measures might be taken by him to allay this feeling and we requested him also to go into the matter very carefully. We are a very peaceful community, we do not ask for rights unnecessarily and as a matter of fact a large number of us, Christians, are prepared to efface, ourselves entirely and say we do not want any special representation; and if therefore on this point we are firm and ask that some facilities should be given, it is because we feel strongly on the point. I need not say that Catholics cannot be expected to depart in the slightest degree from the position which they have firmly and uniformly held. On the other hand I feel sure that Government will not wish to go counter to the unanimous and firmly held views of the Catholic clergy and laity. It is not a question peculiar only to India. This question has agitated the Catholic community in every country and it has caused a lot of trouble. I believe one of the chief causes for the separation of Ireland from England was due to the

18th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

education question. At present a large number of Irishmen are living in England and they now demand that they should have all the privileges which are granted to the minority communities in Europe. I would therefore like to point out that it is desirable that a statesmanlike policy should be adopted in this matter. It is not enough to tinker with these things and give some small concession here and some other concession there. I hope I will be able to catch the ear of the hon. Minister, who has always shown himself sympathetic and has produced a very good impression on the people when he last visited South Kanara—I understand he is also an *alumnus* of a Catholic school—I hope he will carefully consider this matter and would act in a statesmanlike way and adopt measures which will completely allay the feeling of resentment that exists, so that he may have the credit of having brought about satisfaction among one of the minority communities. Let it be left to the Justice Party which he represents to do this great benefit to this community and to say that it has been able to cement the various communities together.

"The Justice Party has always stood for communal justice. It has stood for the elevation of the depressed and the redress of wrongs. I request the hon. Minister to be true to the policy of his party and take immediately such measures as will allay our feeling in the matter. Rules are all well on paper—but they have been repeatedly broken in the district of South Kanara. I am sorry to say that the District Educational Councils have not been able to look at them in the proper way. They are obsessed by the idea that there should not be any separate schools. If an application is made for a separate school, they ask 'Why should not the Catholics go to a common school?' They are obsessed by that idea and hence they are not able to do justice. In order to bring about just treatment, it is necessary to lay down definite rules and I would ask the hon. the Minister for Education to consider the question of laying down definite rules and to state that if 40 parents of a minority community—be they Muslims or Christians want a separate school for themselves, such schools should be maintained or aided by the Government, the district board or the municipality as the case may be, or if only 10 parents apply for such a facility, it may be ordered they shall have a separate class for religious instruction at a common school. Sir, a sum of Rs. 29,000 has been voted in the municipality of Mangalore towards education and no separate school exists for Christians. Here again the non-Christians are obsessed with the idea that there need not be any separate school for any minority community. Is it fair, Sir, that the Catholics or the Christians should be taxed twice—they should have to pay part of the money which goes to make up this Rs. 29,000 and they should also pay for their own schools? I ask, Sir, if it is fair? I ask every hon. Member to lay his hand to his heart and say if it is equitable. As I said, Sir, there is considerable friction and it can only be allayed by taking the measures I have suggested. I would be glad if the hon. the Minister will consider the desirability of appointing a small committee just as he appointed one in regard to Muslim

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [18th March 1932

Education—a wise step on his part—to consider the grievances of the Christian community in regard to schools and go into the matter carefully. I request that he will repeat his wisdom here also. Probably hon. Members are aware of what is taking place in Italy. Sgr. Mussolini though he was not a practising Christian at the time found it necessary to recognize the teaching of religion in schools in the interests of the State; and all over Italy, religious education is now given side by side with secular education. Sgr. Mussolini does not despise the Christian associations, but tries to get their help.

" Sir, every attempt is now being made to further elementary education in this province. Such a thing is found to be difficult of accomplishment for want of funds. Why should not Government give more aid to the aided institutions? An institution maintained by Government would naturally cost a good deal. That amount if given over to aided institutions would result in much greater benefit to the cause of education. For instance, Sir, is there any very great necessity of maintaining the Presidency College? Is it giving benefits in proportion to the amount of money that is being spent upon it? I fear that the case for continuing that college does not appear to be very strong and people should not wish that sentiment should have its way when we are struggling for freedom, when the franchise question is there and when we are trying to educate our people politically. Under these circumstances, is it justifiable to waste so much money?

" If at all Christians have any special interest, it is that of education. The hon. Minister would admit that when he visited South Kanara, he found that almost all the important educational institutions were maintained by Christians and that a good deal of the work for the uplift and education in the district was due to the Catholics. Such being the case, I appeal that our interests in the matter of education be carefully considered.

" I shall now come to the next question on which we, Christians, feel strongly and that is the question of the depressed classes. It is a hardy annual. Every year we have been discussing about the question; but nothing tangible emerges out of it. Our point is this: that distinction is made by the Government between depressed class Hindus and such of them as have embraced Christianity."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Mr. President, Sir, is a discussion on depressed class education permissible under this Demand? "

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Sir, I am speaking about the Educational policy of the Government and I am not speaking about labour matters. The question that I point out has nothing to do with labour. What I want to point out is that as soon as a depressed class man becomes a Christian, the protection and concessions that he had enjoyed and was entitled to are taken away from him. It may be

18th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

urged that depressed classes Christians become socially elevated on their conversion and that they get more prosperous. But as a matter of fact, whether the Christians are to blame for it or not, the depressed classes do not get at once elevated as a result of conversion. There is a gulf between the caste Christians and depressed class Christians. In some districts—I am glad there is not much of it in my district—especially in Tanjore and Tinnevelly, I believe there is very sharp difference between caste Christians and depressed class Christians. My hon. Friend, Khan Bahadur Khalifullah, knows the situation and spoke about it some couple of years ago. If it is admitted that the depressed class men on conversion are in no way socially elevated the question naturally arises as to why depressed class Christians should not get the same educational concessions which they enjoyed as Hindu depressed classes. Mr. Muniswami Pillai and the rest of the hon. Members representing the depressed classes plead for them and I appeal to them that they should also plead for the depressed class Christians. I should think that they ought to have no objection to some provision being made for them to help them and place them on a footing with the Hindu depressed class men. It may be news to many hon. Members that the whole attitude of the Government towards the depressed class is due to the agitation carried on by the Christians. I pointed this out in my speech last year. I shall not now repeat what I said last year. But I am pained to see that whenever I raise the question of depressed class Christians, the Hindu depressed class representatives get up and say that the question should not be raised—probably because they fear that by granting the concessions to Christian depressed classes, Government would not be able to set apart for the Hindu depressed classes the sums they had hitherto provided for them. I should like to ask the hon. Gentlemen to speak out their minds and say that they do not want the Hindu depressed classes to become Christians and that they should not get any privileges and that the Hindu depressed classes alone are entitled to them. I hope that every member of the Indian Christian community will rise up and speak on this most important question so that the full force of our opinions may be brought to bear on the question.

"Now, Sir, let me come to a less controversial question. We have got two very good institutions in Madras—the Museum and the Connemara Library. Both these fortunately are under the charge of the hon. Minister for Education; but I see that only a very little amount has been granted for the maintenance of these two institutions. It is very difficult for visitors to reach them. Buses do not run up to these institutions. I do not see why traffic should not be allowed to run up to these institutions. I raised the question once before and I was told that there was no objection for traffic to go up to them. (An hon. Member: 'How is it relevant to the Demand under discussion'?) I will tell the relationship. I ought to have raised the question under the other Demand; but I had no opportunity of speaking. (An hon. Member: 'How can you bring it here'?) I consider that it is within the province of the hon. Minister to move the other departments to provide that

they may be connected to a bus route. It is not possible to go to these institutions except by car or other conveyance. There is no public conveyance. Much time is lost in moving up there. I therefore trust that the Education department will move the other departments and see that all restrictions are removed and that it is feasible for buses to go up to these institutions and farther also; for if they stop there, and return back, it will not be profitable for them. I think that some step might be taken so that buses might be able to go to these places and take their route round other buildings in the neighbourhood and reach their terminus. I think objection is raised by the people who live in fine houses thereabouts; and they do not like buses to be disturb-
30 ing them. We ought to consider also the interests of the people who
a. are benefited by these libraries and should not consider only the interests of those people who want absolute silence and privacy.

"Then as regards the library itself, Sir, it has been turned into an open access library and it is proving an extremely useful institution, and the whole credit goes to the authorities who have brought this about. The restaurant there is not a good and convenient one. So I would suggest a suitable room to be set apart for this purpose, so that the amenities of the library may be improved. There are no proper lavatories also. Those that exist at present are of a primitive kind; and I would suggest the opening of up-to-date lavatories, like those, for example, that obtain in the Secretariat. And if necessary a small charge also might be made for the use of them to cover their cost, as is done in Europe. Then coming to the subject of ventilation there are no electric fans at all. A library is expected to be of great utility to the people who make use of it. And if there is no proper ventilation how can the visitors use the library properly? From an architectural point of view the library is a fine building. But from the utilitarian point of view there is much to be done. I would suggest that the library be fitted with electric fans.

"I would also suggest the hours of the library to be extended up to 7-30 p.m. As it is, a large number of people are not able to go there before 5-30 p.m. Many of them return from their office only at that time, and it is necessary that the library should be kept open after that hour. In England the libraries are kept open till 9 p.m. or even later. Perhaps a little extra staff may be required for this, or over-time allowance may be given to the existing staff for working beyond normal hours. The benefits that will result will outweigh the expenditure incurred."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"Is there no time limit, Sir?"

* Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"Unfortunately for me there is no time limit. (Laughter.) However I will not take that privilege. Then, Sir, the only point that remains to be dealt with by me and which I want to make at as early a time as possible is that there should be a larger number of Catholic representatives in the District Education Councils.

18th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

The present Council does not do sufficient justice to the Christian institutions. With these words, Sir, I resume my seat."

* S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish I had had enough time to speak on this important subject, as it is a matter concerning not one single community only. Education, Sir, is a subject of great importance, and I am glad that the portfolio for Education is in the hands of the present Minister, because as a Member of Government responsible to this House he listens with great care and sympathy to the representations in this Council. I am glad the policy of the Government in matters relating to Education is for the spread of Elementary Education. My observations in this connexion will be very brief. The point that I wish to impress on the Minister is that he should do everything in his power to help Muslim education in this Province, because it is only education that will help my community to take its legitimate place along with other communities and to solve the question of Indian nationalism.

" In this connexion I would particularly point out a few instances in the Ceded Districts regarding Muslim education. In spite of the fact that Kurnool has got the largest Muslim population in the whole of Andhra Desa we have got very few schools there, particularly elementary schools. I wish to point out one of the reasons why my community is backward in education and it is this. We have not got the required number of trained people. Whenever we approach the district and taluk boards to open new schools they come forward with the plea that they have not got the required number of qualified teachers.

" Another blow and I think the severest blow that Muslim education has received is that recently on account of the Retrenchment proposals the stipends of all training students have been cut short, so much so that now a student who was hitherto receiving Rs. 10-8-0 every month has now to be content with only Rs. 4-8-0 only. At this rate, Sir, I fear next year very few Muslim students will come forward for training. And this means that the very few Muslim Training schools that are now existing will have to be closed down as I know, for certain, that the only class of people that go in for training, I mean the poor, will find it impossible to seek admission. I wish to mention here, Sir, the effect it will have particularly on Muslim female education, as there are absolutely very few women trained teachers in our community. So I would request the hon. Minister at least to restore the stipend to its original amount. I am glad in response to our request the Muslim Education Committee has been appointed, and I sincerely trust its labours will result in immense benefit to the Muslims.

" The Mappillas of Malabar also should be considerably helped, and I would in this connexion represent to the Minister that if the Government Brennen College is abolished the Mappilla education in North Malabar will suffer. Recently there was a public meeting of the Mappillas of Tellicherry and they have unanimously passed a

[S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur] [18th March 1932

resolution to the effect that if the Brennen College is abolished it would be a great set back to the collegiate education of the Mappillas of North Malabar. And they have also urged the Muslim Members of this House to urge their demand on the floor of this House. So I appeal to Government with all the emphasis that I can command not to abolish the Brennen College at Tellicherry."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—Mr. Deputy President, Sir, it is rather unfortunate that the retrenchment axe should have fallen heaviest on the department of Education. It has been rightly pointed out by my Friend from South Kanara, Mr. A. B. Shetty, that while the amount spent on Education in 1930–31 was 286·4 lakhs, according to the Budget Estimates for 1932–33 the Government propose to spend only 231·4 lakhs on this department. Government have cut down their expenditure for Education by 55 lakhs and odd. To put it arithmetically, it amounts to a reduction of about 19 per cent. Sir, it is one thing to effect retrenchment in the expenditure of Government and it is another thing to effect retrenchment in the department of Education.

" It is being very much talked of that we are going to have a further instalment of Reforms sooner or later—I do not know when it is going to come. All that we know is that we have been promised a certain measure of responsibility. The success of the Reforms depends on the educational standard of our voters. For if you want them to exercise their franchise, which is going to be extended to them, intelligently they should be well-equipped to discharge that duty. Unless you give them at least elementary education, you will not be enabling them to exercise their franchise intelligently, and you will only be enfranchising the village munsifs and headmen, who will simply drive them to the polls and make them vote one way or the other. Therefore when you extend the franchise you should simultaneously introduce elementary education into every nook and corner of this Presidency. If the hon. Minister accepts this dictum, viz., that the success of the much talked of Reforms would depend on the intelligence of the general voter, he must then admit that compulsion should be introduced, and that every child of school-going age should be compelled to attend some school, whether aided or unaided, whether Government or municipal or private. In fact every individual should be given education at least in the three R's. Is it being done now ?

" It is admitted in the report of the Director of Public Instruction that children generally attend schools up to the second or the third standard and then they do not attend schools but join the ranks of the illiterate, and thus the sums spent on them become a mere waste of public money. I ask the hon. Minister for Education what steps he has taken to prevent such waste, or if he has till now taken no steps may I know what steps he proposes to take? My own opinion is, I think, I am not far wrong, that the hon. Minister, instead of helping the spread of elementary education, is only retarding it by his recent amendment of the Elementary Education Act, which he recently introduced into this Council and had it passed through at break-neck

18th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

speed. As has rightly been pointed out on that occasion by some hon. Members of this House compulsory elementary education in this province—at any rate in the City of Madras, if not elsewhere—has become a dead letter. Although the word 'compulsory' may remain in the statute book, no parent is being compelled to send his child to school. I am sure the hon. Minister is not unaware of the fact that, several educational institutions have already closed down, not merely schools conducted by private bodies, but also those managed by well organized Christian missions. I am speaking with particular reference to the City of Madras.

"They have closed down their institutions because they find it absolutely *impossible to run them without compensation* for the loss of their fee income. It would be evident to anyone who views the question impartially that human nature being what it is, it is impossible to expect the parents to send their children to schools where fees are being collected, in preference to schools where fees are not collected. The schools run by the Madras Corporation which number about 140 are not collecting any fees. These 140 schools maintained by the Madras Corporation can possibly accommodate at the most only 30,000 children. But according to a rough estimate there are at present about 70,000 children of school-going age in the City of Madras. What is the provision that the hon. Minister expects to make for the education of the 40,000 children who cannot be accommodated in the Corporation schools? Are they to go without any education? That is exactly what is happening. At any rate until three months back 50 per cent of these 40,000 children were in the private schools which were receiving from the Corporation a subsidy which was technically called a compensation for loss of fee income. Now the Corporation authorities have stopped the payment of compensation to these private institutions because the Government have come forward and passed an amending measure saying that it will not be obligatory on the part of any local body to pay any compensation, to these private schools. These schools do not now get any compensation, and are compelled to levy fees from the pupils. The effect has been that the 20,000 children who have been receiving education in these private schools are now gradually staying away from schools and are going into unorganized factories like the beedi factories and tailoring shops. There are at present very nearly 7,000 children employed in beedi factories alone. What steps does the hon. the Third Minister propose to take with regard to these seven thousand children employed in the beedi factories in the most uncongenial surroundings which are bound to have a deleterious effect on the health of the children and make them cripples in their after-life. The matter has been brought to the notice of the Third Minister and no steps have till now been taken in that direction. It is on account of the fact that the Corporation has refused to pay compensations that many of the schools run by private agencies are now closed, and consequently a large number of children of school-going age are compelled to go without any education.

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [18th March 1932

" There is an additional reason why these schools are closing down. Hon. Members are aware of the fact that Government, besides the compensation paid by local bodies, give to these private institutions what is known as grant-in-aid, based on the number of teachers employed in the respective institutions and the number reading in those institutions. You will forgive me when I say that Madras in particular has been very shabbily treated in the matter of allotment of funds for distribution to these schools. In 1929–30 the total amount of money that was placed at the disposal of the District Educational Council for distribution to these schools amounted to Rs. 2,64,081. But in 1931–32 only about Rs. 1,51,000 was placed at the disposal of the Madras District Educational Council. I ask, Sir, whether the hon. Minister seriously thinks that the schools in Madras would continue to exist in spite of the reduction in the grant-in-aid given to these institutions. It is not a negligible cut. Thus you will note that while in the case of Madras there has been a cut of 42·5 per cent in the case of certain other districts increased allotments have been made, in some cases amounting to an increase of nearly 20 per cent. It is unreasonable, Sir, that Madras City which is the centre of culture and learning and which is the foremost City in this Province should be treated so shabbily in the matter of allotment of grants. I was saying that this reduction was going to result in many of the few schools that manage to drag on in spite of the cessation of compensations, being closed down. And erelong the Minister will find all the private institutions in the City of Madras closed down, and all the 40,000 children of school-going age going without any education. I cannot imagine what would be the consequences of that.

" Speaking about Elementary Education I wish to draw the attention of the Minister to certain points regarding the administration of this branch of his portfolio. The tendency on the part of the previous Ministers has been to decentralize and to devolve more power to non-official bodies so that they may themselves be in entire charge of elementary education in their respective districts. That is the correct policy to be followed. But the policy of the present Minister is otherwise. The Chief Minister may be offended, but I have to say what I feel, and I shall say that whether it pleases or displeases him. This Ministry has entirely given away all the power into the hands of the executive, even the small powers vested in the District Educational Councils. This is not a baseless charge. I speak from personal knowledge. Let the gentleman sitting over there make a note of it. I will give only one instance. In August 1931 the Ministry of Education sent round a circular saying that the District Educational Councils should not give any advance grants to schools in their area unless the inspecting authorities certified that these schools are fit to receive grants. Mr. President, with one hand they give the power of distributing grants to the District Educational Councils, and with the other hand they curtail that power and give it to the inspecting authorities. The inspecting authority as we all know, is the Deputy Inspector of

Schools. Does the Minister suggest that in the matter of giving grants the Deputy Inspector can be relied upon to do greater justice than a body of honourable and public-spirited men who constitute the District Educational Council? For the information of the Third Minister I may also point out that if the working of the Elementary Education Act, and distribution of grants under that Act to elementary schools has fallen into contempt, as pointed out by Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar, it is due to the fact that the inspecting authorities have not been doing their duties properly. I can quote a number of instances of bogus institutions, to use the phrase of the Third Minister, where there were only 20 or 30 boys, having received very large grants. Who is responsible for that? Your own inspecting staff. There can be no greater condemnation of the inspecting staff than the statement of the hon. Minister that 'bogus institutions' were getting grants. And yet the hon. Minister has taken away certain powers vested in the Educational Councils and given them over to the inspecting staff.

"I have got a few remarks to make regarding the Women's Branch of the Educational Department. Before proceeding further I should like to make it known to hon. Members of this House that whatever remarks I may make in this connexion, I do not mean to cast any aspersion on the womanhood of our country, or even on those who are employed in that branch of our Educational service. I may, for the information of the hon. the Third Minister, say at once that I am only reflecting the impression created in certain quarters by the answers given by the hon. Minister on the floor of this House in reply to questions put by his own party-men questioning the conduct of certain officers. As a result of that, the impression is fast spreading that the moral standards of those who are employed in that service is fast going down. (A voice: Question.) It is not my opinion. That is the feeling that is gaining ground as a result of the nasty questions put on the floor of this House, and therefore I am only requesting the hon. Minister to vindicate the conduct of the officers concerned in those interpellations, and thus raise the women's branch of the Educational service in the estimation of the public. The only way in which this can be done is by purging the department of all the delinquent elements, if any. I would appeal to the hon. Minister to take immediate steps in that direction and thus raise the moral standard of this service.

"As regards the general direction and administration of the women's branch of education, I should like to make out one point, and that is this. The administration as it is being carried on by the present Deputy Directress is very far from satisfactory.

"It is a well known fact that the Deputy Directress has her own 4 p.m.
idiosyncracies, likes and dislikes. I do not for one moment suggest that any individual is not at liberty to hold his or her own views, have likes and dislikes; but, that it should be carried into the daily administration of the department is a thing which should not be tolerated. The Deputy Directress appears to hold the view that married women are not fit to be in the department altogether; and the

manner in which she has been posting some of these married women in that department clearly indicates that she is prejudiced against married women as such. And the lightning rapidity with which in some instances she passes orders, transferring officers from place to place is really ununderstandable. I will give one instance how in the case of one particular gazetted officer in the Women's Educational Service, within the course of about one month there were three notifications. One said that this officer is posted to some place,—I forget which, the next week's gazette announced the fact that that notification is cancelled and that officer is posted to the Egmore Training School; and the third week brought the news that the previous notification is cancelled and that the officer is posted to the Hobart Training School in Royapetta. Sir, surely there must be an unseen hand behind all this. This is only a typical instance of numerous cases which have been brought to my notice. There are legitimate cases where people feel that they cannot serve in a particular area and when they appeal to the Deputy Directress for transfer on reasonable and valid grounds, she refuses such requests, but accedes to the requests of some of her own favourites in these respects. Therefore there is a strong feeling that this department should go back to the old days when the women's branch was administered directly by the Director of Public Instruction.

"I understand that the Retrenchment Committee has recommended to Government that the post of the Deputy Directress ought to be abolished. I do not understand why the Government should not have come to any conclusion or passed any orders on that recommendation. If the Retrenchment Committee has made one sensible recommendation in regard to this department, it is this. I therefore appeal to the hon. the Third Minister to accept that recommendation and abolish that post. Perhaps the hon. Minister feels that this officer's claim, that she holds a 'permanent special' post and therefore cannot be removed from her place without the special sanction of the Secretary of State for India is legitimate. But I may submit for the information of the Third Minister that he is wrong if he should hold that view. I can say, that according to the orders passed by the Secretary of State in 1926, there are only two special posts in the women's branch and these two posts are already held by two senior officers, namely, the Principal of the Queen Mary's College and the Principal of the Lady Willingdon College. I cannot for one moment understand why there should be a third special post, and that post be held by Miss Lowe who is junior to two other officers, Miss Myers and Miss Prager. Is it because they belong to the Anglo-Indian community and are voiceless that they are being treated in this manner? I do not find here the hon. Member representing the Anglo-Indian community. He must protest against the treatment meted out to these two officers. As a matter of right they are entitled to hold a higher place than Miss Lowe.

"Now I come back to the present Deputy Directress and her administrative acts. I can point out several instances where the

18th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

Deputy Directress has sanctioned grants-in-aid to unrecognized schools. This is a serious matter, and I ask the Third Minister to make note of this fact. I ask whether under the existing Educational Rules, any authority, even the Minister himself, is at liberty to give grants-in-aid to institutions which are not recognized by Government. I can quote a number of institutions supposed to be there for giving training to women, institutions which are not recognized and yet receiving large sums by way of grants or subsidies. I ask the hon. the Third Minister whether he is going to allow this sort of thing to continue for any length of time.

" Speaking as I do about the Women's branch of the Educational Department, I am constrained to bring to the notice of the Third Minister one very serious neglect on the part of the Principal of the Queen Mary's College, Madras. I am assured by several girls undergoing training there that the Principal has of late become rather cynical and has an utter disregard for the comforts and amenities of those reading in that College. It appears that as far back as July or August 1931, there were several cases of burglary and theft. Several rooms were broke open by some unknown persons and valuable things carried away. I understand that the matter has been brought to the notice of the Police also. I am reliably informed that the latches and bolts of the rooms which were burgled have not been set right, and the girls reading in that institution are bitterly complaining that they are even afraid to stay in that institution, because at any moment there may be a repetition of those burglaries. Although I have drawn the attention of the Government to this fact by means of an interpellation, I understand that these latches and bolts have not been replaced or even been repaired.

" There is another point to which I should like to draw the attention of the Third Minister. There seems to be a feeling in the minds of the members of the Women's branch of the Educational Service that the Government Servants' Conduct Rules, which governs the conduct of all Government servants, do not apply to them at all. I will give one instance. There is what is known as the All-India Women's Conference of which several members of this service are members. When the Retrenchment Committee has recommended that the post of the Deputy Directress ought to go and when that recommendation was before the Government and receiving their consideration some of the members of this service have come forward and written to the Press in the name of the Women's Conference Committee protesting against the abolition of the post. I ask whether there is one set of rules for our women and another set of rules for our men. Certainly there cannot be. If members of the Women's branch of the service are going to be allowed to do as they like, and protest against the Government or question the sagacity of any decision that the Government may come to, the morale of the whole service will be spoiled. What is going to be the effect of this appeal that these people have made in the Madras papers? Naturally, human nature

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [18th March 1932

being what it is, Miss Lowe will be pleased to see her subordinates backing her up and trying to see that she continues in that place as long as she likes. Naturally too, she will be inclined to confer on them official preference and patronage. Therefore there is a feeling among the other members of the service that they should also try and placate the Deputy Directress by making such appeals and convening public meetings. I only put one straight question to the hon. the Third Minister and I want a straight answer, whether he is going to allow the members of this branch of the Educational service to do as they like, to participate in any activity calculated to question the decisions of the Government. I am not for one moment stating that our womenfolk should not take part in such activities. But it is one thing to say that women should take part in such activities and quite a different thing to say that members of the Educational Service should be encouraged to take part in such activities and carry on propaganda against the decisions of the Government. Whether this is going to be put an end to or not, I want a straight answer.

" Lastly, I will come to the question of night schools. The hon. the Third Minister made a special reference to night schools in his remarks in connexion with the General Discussion of the Budget the other day. The hon. Minister said that I was not correct when I levelled a charge against him that he was trying to check the spread of adult education in the Province. I still maintain that he is doing that. I am not convinced, Sir, in spite of all that he said on that occasion, that the spread of adult education will not be hampered. The hon. the Third Minister said that his attention had been drawn to the fact that there are several bogus schools which never existed and which however received grants from Government. Sir, I agree with him. I know of several such instances.

" But, I should only like to ask, if the Government have been giving grants to bogus institutions, whose fault is it? Is it the fault of those who are responsible for running these schools or is it the fault of your own inspecting authorities? Why did not the latter bring this fact to the notice of the Government? Why then did they recommend grants to bogus institutions. If these bogus institutions received grants all these years, it was on the recommendation of the inspecting authorities. How can you come forward and say that these are all bogus institutions? The hon. Minister has made that statement I take it, on the authority or the views expressed by the inspecting authorities. Is it not these very authorities, I ask, that have recommended that certain schools should be given certain specified grants. After they have recommended the payment of grants, now to come forward and say that these institutions are bogus institutions and therefore deserve only 25 per cent of the grant recommended is a position which cannot be understood, at any rate, by one with ordinary intelligence. Perhaps those who are born great, like one of the colleagues of the hon. Third Minister, may understand that position. For my part, I am not able to understand that position.

18th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

" Sir, the hon. Minister maintained on a previous occasion that it was still open to the District Educational Councils to give cent per cent grant to institutions which are managed properly and no grant at all to institutions which are ill-managed. I am unable to understand what he meant by that. If he meant that the District Educational Councils are at liberty to give any grant and any amount they like to any particular institution which in their opinion is being very well conducted, I can understand that, and I am one with him, and I shall certainly say that there need be no grumbling whatever against the reduction in the allotment for night schools. For, in any case well-managed schools would continue to get grants. But Sir, that is not the case. The instructions issued by the Ministry of Education to the District Educational Councils are, that they should be guided in the matter of distribution of grants by the inspecting authorities of the Government. These very inspecting authorities have already inspected the institutions and have submitted their reports to the Educational Councils concerned recommending the payment of certain sums. Once the inspecting staff have made their recommendations after careful scrutiny, how can the Government now come forward and say that only 25 per cent of the grant recommended by the inspecting staff should be paid. How can any Educational Council with impunity say that no grant will be paid to any one institution, bogus though it may be? The Educational councils have no option whatever in this matter.

" Thus, Sir, a death blow has been rendered to the cause of adult education through night schools."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" At this stage I wish to observe that, during the last 1 hour and 20 minutes during which this House has been sitting this afternoon, only two hon. Members have spoken. At this rate many hon. Members who are anxious to speak on this Demand will not have the opportunity of speaking at all. May I, therefore, urge on the hon. Members to be brief and thus accommodate other hon. Members also and enable them to speak on this Demand within the time which is allowed for it." (Hear, hear.)

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDA addressed the House in Tamil as follows :—

" அரசாங்கத்தாரது கல்வியின் கொள்கை சரியானதாக இருக்கவில்லை. ஏற்கனவே ஆரம்பப்படிப்பைப்பரப்புவதற்கு யோசனைகள் நடந்து கட்டாயப் படிப்பை துடங்க வேண்டுமென்றும் வயது வந்தவர்களுக்குப்படிப்பு கற்றுக் கொடுக்க இராபள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் ஏற்படுத்த வேண்டுமென்றும் முயற்சிகள் நடைபெற்று வந்தன. ஜில்லாக்களில் கல்விச்சங்கங்களும் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டு ஜனங்களுக்கும் பொறுப்பளித்தார்கள். ஆனால் தற்போதோ ஆரம்பப்படிப்பிற்கே ஆபத்து வந்துவிட்டது. ஒரு உபாத்தியாயிருந்து நடத்தும் பாடசாலைகளை எடுத்துவிடும்படி உத்தரவிட்டுள்ளார்கள். அதனோடும் தனிப்பட்ட நபர்கள் வைத்துள்ள பாடசாலைகளின் உதவிகளையுஞ்சுருக்கிவிட்டார்கள். பணமுடையேற்பட்டாலும் கல்வியிலாக்காவில் கைவைக்கவேகூடாது. மேலும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களது கல்வி விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தார் இன்னும் திட்டமான முறையை அனுசரிக்கவில்லை. எல்லாப் பாடசாலைகளிலும் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களைச் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்று உத்தரவு செய்தார்கள், அது அமுலில்வரவில்லை. பிள்ளைகளின் பெற்

[Swami A. S. Sahajananda] [18th March 1932

றோர்களுக்கு மனமில்லாததாலும், உபாத்திமார்களுக்கு மனந்திரும்பாததாலும் பள்ளிக்கூடங்கள் வைத்திருக்கும் கட்டிட சொந்தக்காரர்களுக்கு மனம்வராத தாலும், பாடசாலைகளை மேற்பார்க்கும் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களுக்குத் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வர்களிடம் அனுதாபமில்லாதவர்களாயிருத்தலாலும் பாடசாலைகளை நிருவகிக்கும் தாலூக் போர்டார், நகர பரிபாலன சபையார், லேபர் ஆபீஸர்கள் இவர்கள் ஊக்கத் தோடும் கவனியாமையாலும் அரசாங்க உத்தரவு ஏட்டு சுரக்காயாயிருக்கிறது. அரசாங்க உத்தரவை அமுலில் நடத்தத்தக்க முயற்சிகளை இன்னும் இலாக்கா அதிகாரிகள் சரியான நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை. ஆதிதிராவிட மாணவர்களைச் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளமுடியாதென பல இடங்களில் திட்டமாக மறுக் கிறார்கள். பிள்ளைகள் ஜாதி இந்துக்கள் பாடசாலைக்குப் போனால் அடிக்கிறார்கள். குழந்தைகளின் தாய் தந்தையருக்குப்பலவித இடையூர்கள் செய்கிறார்கள். உபாத்திமார்களுக்கு இடையூறு செய்கிறார்கள். அவர்களுக்குத்தனிமையாக தொழிற் கமிஷனர் இலாக்காவை ஏற்படுத்தினார்கள். தற்போது சில சாக்குகள் வைத்து கொண்டு லேபர் இலாகா பாடசாலைகளையும் எடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். நேற்று ஹோம் மெம்பர் ஒரு கேள்விக்குச் சொல்லிய பதிலில் இதுவரை ஐந்நூறு பாடசாலைகள் எடுத்துவிட்டதாகக் கூறினார்கள். ஆகவே, தற்போதைய நிலை யில் இராண்டுஸ்கூல்களும் ஒழிந்தன. இராப்பாடசாலைகளும் ஒழிந்தன. ஜாதி இந்துக்கள் பாடசாலைகளிலும் அனுபவத்தில் சேர்ப்பதில்லை. ஆனால் சேர்த்துக் கொள்ளுகிறோமென சமாதானம் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு ஒன்று நடக்கவில்லை. லேபர் ஸ்கூல்களையும் எடுக்கிறார்கள். ஆகவே, தாழ்த்தப் பட்டவர்கள் கல்விக்கு அனர்த்தம் வந்துள்ளது. தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட ஏழைமக்களுக்கு எந்த வகையில் கல்வியை பரப்ப அரசாங்கத்தார் உத்தேசித்துள்ளார்கள் என் பதை கனம் கலவி இலாக்கா மந்திரி அறிவிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன். தற்போது பாட சாலைகளை நிறுத்துமிடங்களில் இனிவரும் சந்ததிகளுக்கு கல்வியை அளிக்க என்ன முயற்சிகள் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதை விளக்கமாகச் சொல்லும் படி கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

" சாதாரணமாக கிராமங்களில் லோயர் கிரேட் எயிடெட் ஸ்கூல்களும் திண்ணை பள்ளிக்கூடங்களும் தானுள்ளன. அங்குபடித்தவர்கள் போதனா முறைபயிலு முன் செஷனல் ஸ்கூலில் ஓராண்டு பயில்வார்கள். ஆனால் தற்போது கடலூரி லிருந்த செஷனல் ஸ்கூலையும் இன்னும் இதர ஜில்லாக்களிலுமுள்ள செஷனல் ஸ்கூல்களையும் அரசாங்கத்தார் எடுத்துவிட்டார்கள். இதனால் மூலாதார ஆசிரி யர்களாகப்பயில்வோர் குறையலாயினர். அன்றி கீழ்தர மூலாதார போதனா முறை பாடசாலைகளையும் அரசாங்கத்தார் பல இடங்களில் நிறுத்தலாயினர். அதற்கு அவர்கள் உயர்தர மூலாதார பாடசாலைகளை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யப்போகிறோ மென்ன சமாதானம் கூறுகின்றனர். அப்படியானால் உயர்தர மூலாதார கல்வி அளிக்க கிராமங்களில் அரசாங்கத்தார் என்ன வசதிகள் செய்துள்ளார்கள். கிரா மங்களில் ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலைகள் வைப்பதற்கு சென்ற வருஷம் ஒவ் வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் எத்தனை மூலாதார உயர்தர பாடசாலைகள் ஏற்படுத்தினர். இந்த வருஷம் எத்தனை புதிதாக ஏற்படுத்தப்போகிறார்களென்று கனம் கல்வி இலாக்கா அமைச்சர் பதிலளிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன். ஹையர் கிரேட் பாடசாலைகளை நடத்த குறைந்தது சகண்டரி கிரேட் போதனாமுறை பயின்ற ஆசிரியர்கள் வேண டாமா ? கிராமங்கள்தோறும் ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலைகளும், நடுத்தர போதனா முறைபயின்ற ஆசிரியர்களும் தோன்ற அரசாங்கத்தார் என்ன முயற்சி கள் எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்போகிறார்கள். தயவு செய்து தெரிவிக்கவேண்டுகிறேன் தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லாவில் சிதம்பரம் தான் கல்விக்கு உறைவிடமாயுளது. அங்கு சர்வகலாசாலை யிருக்கிறது. தமிழ் காலேஜ், சமஸ்கிருத காலேஜ், ஸ்ரீமீனாட்சி காலேஜ்' சங்கீத காலேஜ் முதலானவைகளிருக்கின்றன. ராமசாமி செட்டியார் டவுன் ஐஸ்கூல், பச்சையப்பா ஹைஸ்கூல் என இரண்டு ஐஸ்கூல்களிருக்கின்றன. தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு ஒரு ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலையும், கிறிஸ்த மிஷன் ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலையுமிருக்கின்றன. சிதம்பரத்திலுள்ள நடுத்தர போதனாமுறை பாடசாலைக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் கிராண்டு கொடுக்கமுடி யாதென மறுத்துவிட்டார்கள். கனம் ராஜா சர் அண்ணாமலை செட்டியாரவர்கள் தமது சொந்த பணத்தைக்கொண்டு யூனிவர்சிடி ஏற்படுத்த சுமார் 30 லெக்ஷங்கள்

18th March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

வரை கொடுத்தார். டவுன் ஹைஸ்கூல் அவர்கள் தலைமையரால் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டு தற்போது கனம் செட்டிநாடு குமாரராஜா அவர்களால் பரிபாலிக்கப்பட்டுவருகிறது. அதனையொட்டி வைத்துள்ள செகண்டரி, ஹையர், லோயர் போதனுமுறை பாடசாலைகள் மிகவும் சிக்கனமாகவும் ஒழுங்காகவும் நடைபெற்று வருகின்றன. ஹையர், லோயர் போதனுமுறை பாடசாலைகளின் நிருவாகத்திற்கு கனம் செட்டிநாடு ராஜா அவர்கள் பாதிக்குமேல் செலவழித்துவருகிறார்கள். அவர்கள் போதனுமுறை பாடசாலைகளுக்கு கட்டிடங்கள் கட்ட இடமும் பார்த்துவருகிறார். இவ்வாறு கல்வி தருமத்திற்குப் பணம் செலவழிக்கும் பெரியார்கள் தமிழ் நாட்டில் மிகவுஞ் சிலரே. சிதம்பரத்திலுள்ள நடுத்தர போதனுமுறை பாடசாலையை அரசாங்கத்தார் நிறுத்தும்படி உத்தரவிட்டதால் உயர்தர, கீழ்தர மூலாதார போதனுமுறை பாடசாலைகளையும் நிறுத்தும்படி கனம் ராஜா அவர்கள் முடிவு செய்துவிட்டார்கள். அரசாங்கத்தார் இப்படி செய்யக்கூடாதென்பதற்கு அவற்றின் நிலைமையைப்பற்றி சிறிது ஈண்டு கூறுகின்றேன்.

" செகண்டரி ட்ரெயினிங் செக்ஷனை ஏதாவது ஒரு ஹைஸ்கூலுடன் விரைவில் சேர்த்துவிடவேண்டும் என்று கவர்ன்மெண்டார் உத்தரவு R.C. No. 2831 D/23, 1924-ம் ஜனவரி 22உ திய விஷயம் :—நனாய் நடந்துவருகிற ஹைஸ்கூல்களுடன் செகண்டரி ட்ரெயினிங்செக்ஷனை ச்சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளமுடியுமா என்று எல்லா D.E.O.-க்களையும் கேட்டதின் மேல் தென் ஆர்காட் D.E.O. இந்த ஜில்லாவில் உள்ள மூன்று ஹைஸ்கூல்களையும் 11 educational bodies ஐயும் கேட்டார். வேறு ஹைஸ்கூல்கள் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளவில்லை. சிதம்பரம் R.C.T. ஹைஸ்கூல் ஒன்றுதான் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளமுன்வந்தது. அதன் பயனாக விழுப்புரத்தில் டெம்பரரியாக ஸர்க்காரால் நடத்தப்பட்டு வந்த செகண்டரி செக்ஷன் சிதம்பரத்திற்குமாற்றப்பட்டது. விழுப்புரத்தில் இருந்தபோது செகண்டரி செக்ஷன் இரண்டு வகுப்புகளுக்கும் வருஷாந்தரச் செலவு (பிள்ளைகள் ஸ்டைபெண்ட்ஸ் தள்ளி) சுமார் 9,300 ரூபாய். G.O. நெ. 767, 1925-ம் மேமீ 12உ பிரகாரம் சிதம்பரம் ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூலுக்கு 1925–26-ம் வருஷத்திற்கு (ஸ்டைபெண்ட்ஸ் தள்ளி) செலவு ரூ. 2,950, அதாவது கவர்ன்மெண்டார் விழுப்புரம் செகண்டரி செக்ஷனை சிதம்பரத்திற்கு மாற்றியதால் செலவு 3-ல் 2 பாகம் குறைந்துவிட்டது. இதிலிருந்து ஸர்க்காருக்கு சிதம்பரத்திலிருந்த கவர்ன்மெண்ட் லோயர் எலிமெண்டரி ட்ரெயினிங் 2-வகுப்புகளையும் இந்த செகண்டரி செக்ஷனுடனேயே சேர்த்துவிடுவது லாபகரமானது என்று எண்ணி அதையும் இதோடு சேர்த்துவிட்டார்கள். இத்துடன் இந்த ஜில்லாவில் உள்ள மற்ற ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூல்களையும் அடியோடு எடுத்து இந்தப்புதிய ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூலோடு ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்பிலும் அதிக செக்ஷன்களை ஏற்படுத்தி நடத்த முடியுமா என்று ஸர்க்காரில் யோசித்தார்கள். அவ்வாறு செய்தால் ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூல்கள் இருக்கும் இடங்களில் எல்லாம் Practising செக்ஷன்கள் வைத்து நடத்துகிற செலவு இல்லாமல் போய்விடும். இந்த ஊரில் உள்ள நல்ல R.C.T. ஹைஸ்கூலில் இருக்கும் முதல் வகுப்பு முதலான வகுப்புக்களையே Practising செக்ஷன்களாக வைத்துக் கொண்டு எல்லா க்ரேட் வகுப்புக்களையும் இந்த ஜில்லாவில் ஒரே இடத்தில் நடத்திவிடலாம். எல்லாவற்றையும் தீரயோஜித்து கவர்ன்மெண்டார் சிதம்பரத்தில் முழுச் செலவில் செகண்டரி ட்ரெயினிங் செக்ஷனையும் ½ செலவில் எலிமெண்டரி ட்ரெயினிங் (லோயர் & ஹையர்) செக்ஷனையும் நடத்த உத்தரவு செய்தார்கள். அப்பொழுதே மானேஜ்மெண்டார் எலிமெண்டரி க்ரேட்டுக்கும் முழுச்செலவு கேட்டார்கள். பிறகு, நாளடைவில், பள்ளிக்கூடத்தின் தேர்ச்சியைக் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் அறிந்து கொண்டு மேலும் மேலும் கிராண்டுகள் கொடுப்பார்கள் என்னும் எலிமெண்டரி க்ரேடுக்கும் முழுச்செலவு கொடுப்பார்கள் என்றும் நம்பிக்கை கொண்டு செகண்டரி செக்ஷனை முழுச்செலவிலும் எலிமெண்டரி செக்ஷனை ½ செலவிலும் நடத்த ஒப்புக்கொண்டார்கள். இதனால் கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு ஏற்படும் லாபம் :—

" சிதம்பரம் கவர்ன்மெண்ட் லோயர் எலிமெண்டரி க்ரேடு 2-வகுப்புகளுக்கும் (61 பையன்கள்) வருஷச் செலவு ரூ. 10,500.

[Swami A. S. Sahajananda] [18th March 1932

" விழுப்புரம் செகண்டரி, ஹையர், லோயர், க்ரேடுகளுக்கும் (128 பையன்கள்) (6 வகுப்புகள்) வருஷச் செலவு ரூ. 34,000.

" அதாவது 8 வகுப்புகள் உள்ள ஷெ 2 ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூல்களுக்கும் ஒரு வருஷச் செலவு ரூ. 44,500.

" சிதம்பரம் 3 க்ரேட் (5 வகுப்புகள்) உள்ள ஸ்ரீமீனுக்ஷி ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூலுக்கு வருஷச் செலவைப் பார்த்தால் கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு முதல் வருஷத்திலேயே ரூபாய் 16,000-க்கு மேல் லாபமென்று காட்டப்பட்டது. இம்மாதிரியே வருஷாவருஷம் கவர்ன்மெண்டுக்கு லாபத்தைக் காட்டி வந்தால் கவர்ன்மெண்டாரே எலிமெண்டரி க்ரேடுக்கும் முழுச் செலவு கொடுப்பார்கள் என்று மானேஜ்மெண்டார் எதிர் பார்த்தார்கள். இந்த (ஸ்ரீமீனுக்ஷி ட்ரெயினிங்) ஸ்கூலுக்கு சுமார் ரூ. 2,500, ஸ்டைபெண்ட்ஸ் உள்பட ஒரு வருஷத்தில் உயர்ந்த செலவு (200 பையன்களுக்கு) ரூ. 32,000 ; சுமார் அதே 200 பையன்களுக்கு நெல்லூர், திண்டுக்கல், திருநெல்வேலி கவர்ன்மெண்ட் **complete** செகண்டரி ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூல்களுக்குச் செலவுகள் முறையே 36,000—40,000 ; 27,000—40,000 ; 32,000—39,000. இவைகளுடன் ஸ்ரீமீனுட்சி ட்ரெயினிங் ஸ்கூல்களை ஒப்பிட்டுப் பார்த்தால் சராசரி வருஷாந்திரச் செலவில் ரூ. 4,500 குறைவு.

" பள்ளிக்கூடம் மிகவும் நன்ருய் நடத்திவரப்படுகிறது என்ற விஷயம் இதனுடன் சேர்க்கப்பட்டிருக்கும் இன்ஸ்பெக்ஷன் ரிபோர்ட்டுகளிலிருந்து நன்கு விளங்கும்.

" மற்றும், இந்தப்பள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்கு ஸ்டைபெண்ட் இல்லாமலே படிப்பதற்கு முன்வரும் பிள்ளைகளின் சங்கியையிலிருந்தே இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடம் பிரபலம் அடைந்திருப்பது நன்கு தெரியும் ;

" மேலும், தாலூக்கா போர்டு, ஜில்லா போர்டு ஸ்டைபெண்ட் வாங்கும் பிள்ளைகள் இந்தபள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்கு அனுப்பப்படுவதிலிருந்தும் இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தின் முன்னேற்றமும் பிரபலமும் நன்ருய் விளங்கும்.

" அன்றியும், ஆரம்பக்கல்வி அபிவிருத்திக்கும், தாழ்ந்த வகுப்பார்களுடைய கல்வி விருத்திக்கும், படிப்பின்மையை ஒழிப்பதற்கும் இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடம் மிகவும் உபயோகமாய் இருக்கின்றது. உதாரணமாய் இந்தப் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் சென்ற சில வருஷங்களாக பயிற்சிபெற்ற ஆதிதிராவிட மாணவர்களின் சங்கியை பின்வருமாறு :—

	1925–26	1926–27	1927–28	1928–29	1929–30	1930–31	1931–32
சிதம்பரம்	16	19	16	14	18	37	48
கூடலூர்	7	14	19	13	13	..	..
விழுப்புரம்	8	13	16	17	12	..	..
திண்டிவனம்	இல்லை	1	3	3	1	..	..

" இந்த மானேஜ்மெண்ட் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தைச் செட்டாக நடத்துவதோடு மிகவும் நன்ருகவும் நடத்திவருகிருர்கள். தாராளமான இடம் ; ஊக்கமுள்ள உபாத்தியாயர்கள் ; நல்ல ஹாஸ்டல் ; விசாலமான விளையாடுமிடம் முதலிய வஸதிகள் இந்த மானேஜ்மெண்டாரால் ஏற்படுத்தப்பட்டிருக்கின்றன.

" இவ்வளவு நன்ருய் நடத்தப்பட்டுவரும் பள்ளிக்கூடத்தில் முழுச் செலவு கொடுக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறதே என்ற ஒரே காரணத்தால் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் செகண்டரி க்ரேடை எடுத்துவிட உத்தரவு செய்திருக்கிருர்கள். முக்யமான செக்ஷன்போனதும் மற்ற இரண்டு செக்ஷன்களும் வேண்டாம் என்று மானேஜ்மெண்டார் தீர்மானித்துவிட்டார்கள். இங்குள்ள செகண்டரி க்ரேடு முதல் வருஷ மாணவர்கள் தஞ்சாவூர், சைதாப்பேட்டை அல்லது சித்தூர் செல்ல வேண்டும்.

18th March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

தஞ்சாவூர் 350 மாணவர்கள் உள்ளதாய் நிறைந்திருக்கிறது. சைதாப்பேட்டையில் L.T. பயிற்சி தான் பிரதான ஸ்தானம் பெற்றிருக்கிறது. சித்தூர் ஆந்திரர்களுக்குத்தான் முக்கிய ஸ்தானமாய் இருக்கிறது.

" தென் ஆற்காடு, வடஆற்காடு, சேலம், செங்கல்பட்டு ஆகிய 4 ஜில்லாக்களுக்கும் இந்தப்பள்ளிக்கூடம் ஒன்று தான் முக்கிய இடமாய் இருக்கிறது.

" இந்தப்பள்ளிக்கூடத்திற்காக மானேஜ்மெண்டார் கைச் செலவு பின் வருமாறு :—

	ரூ.	அ.	பை.
1925-26	7,677	9	0
1926-27	8,062	6	11
1927-28	4,761	3	3
1928-29	5,202	1	5
1929-30	2,269	7	4
1930-31	4,277	14	6
மொத்தம் ..	32,250	10	5

"மானேஜ்மெண்டார் மேலே காட்டிய வண்ணம் பணம் கைவிட்டு செலவு செய்து அரசாங்கத்திற்கு லாபகரமானதாகவும் வித்தியார்த்திகளுக்கு பேருபகாரமாகவும் நடத்தி வருகிறார்கள். முக்கியமாகத் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு உபகாரமாகவும் நடத்திவருகிறார்கள். சிதம்பரத்திலிருக்கும நடுத்தர போதனா முறை பாடசாலையை எடுத்தால் அந்த ஜில்லாவில் வேறு பாடசாலையில்லை. திருநெல்வேலியில் அரங்க நடுத்தரபோதனா முறை பாடசாலையிருக்கிறது. அவ்வாறே பாளையங்கோட்டையில் மிஷினெரிகளாலும் ஒன்று நடத்தப்பட்டுவருகிறது, மதுரை ஜில்லா திண்டுக்கல்லில் ஓர் கம்ளீட் பாடசாலை அரசாங்கத்தாரால் நடத்தப்பட்டு வருகிறது. அதே ஜில்லாவில் பசுமலையில் மிஷினெரியால் ஒன்று நடத்தப்பட்டுவருகிறது. தென்னாற்காட்டில் சிதம்பரத்தைத் தவிர வேறு இடத்திலில்லை. சிதம்பரத்தில் சர்வ கலாசாலை இருப்பதால் படிப்பு வசதியும் மிகவும் பரிசுத்தமான ஸ்தலமாதலால் ஒழுக்கம் பயில்வதற்கு இடமாயுள்ளது. ஆதலால் சிதம்பரத்திலிருக்கும் கம்பளீட் போதனா முறை பாடசாலையை யெடுக்கக்கூடாது.

" பொதுவாக உபாத்திமைத் தொழில் பயிலும் மாணவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கும் 4.
உதவி மிகவும் குறைவு, ஏற்கனவே பத்து அல்லது பன்னிரண்டு ரூபாய்கள் P
கொடுத்து வந்தார்கள். உபாத்திமைத் தொழிலுக்குப்படிப்பவர்கள் பெரும்பாலும் கல்யாணமாகிய குடும்பியாகவே இருப்பார்கள். இவர்கள் இச்சொற்ப பணத்தில் வீட்டு வாடகைக்கொடுக்கவும் போதுமான சாப்பாட்டிற்கு வழியில்லாமலும் கஷ்டபட்டு படித்துவந்தார்கள் தற்போது அச்சொற்ப உதவியில் பெரும்பகுதியைக் குறைத்துவிட்டதால் அவர்களடையும் கஷ்ட நஷ்டங்களை சொல்லமுடியாது. அரசாங்கத்தார் எல்லா போதனா முறை பாடசாலை மாணவர்களுக்குங்குறைக்கக்கூடாது. அது முடியாவிட்டால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கேனும் சிறிது தாராள நோக்கங் காட்ட வேண்டுகிறேன்.

" சிதம்பரத்தில் பெணகளுக்கென ஒரு நடுத்தரக்கல்லூரி ஏற்பட வேண்டும். தற்போது சிதம்பரம் சர்வ கலாசாலைக்கு இருப்பிடமானதால் அங்கு பெண் கல்லூரி அவசியமென சொல்லவேண்டாம். வேறு பெண்களுக்கென பிரத்தியேகமான நடுத்தர பாடசாலையில்லாததால் பச்சையப்ப ஹைஸ்கூல், டவுன் ஹைஸ்கூல் காலேஜ் முதலானவற்றில் ஆண்களோடும் சேர்ந்து படித்துவருகிறார்

கள், ஆதிதிராவிடர்க்கு அங்கு ஒரு பெண்பிள்ளைகள் ஆஸ்டலிருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கென பெண்பாடசாலை பிரத்தியேகமாகயிருக்க வேண்டியது அவசியமாயிருக்கிறது. தற்போது சிதம்பரத்தில் மேலை வீதியில் அரசாங்கத்தினராலேயே முனிசிபல் கௌன்ஸில் மேற்பார்வையில் ஓர் ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலை நடந்துவருகிறது. அதில் 230 மாணவிகள் படிக்கிறார்கள். சிதம்பரம் டவுனில் ஏழு முனிசிபல் பெண்பாடசாலைகளுமிருக்கின்றன. அந்த ஏழு பாடசாலை மாணவிகளும் தனிப்பட்ட நபர்களால் நடத்தும் பாடசாலைகளில் படிக்கும் மாணவிகளும் படிப்பதற்கு வேறு தனிப்பட்ட உயர்தர பெண்பாடசாலையில்லை. ஷை அரசாங்கப் பெண்பாடசாலையில் 10 பேர்கள் உபாத்தினிமார்களிருக்கிறார்கள். ஒருவரும் திறமானவராயில்லை. அந்தப்பாடசாலைக்கு சக்கண்டரி டிரைனிங் படித்தவர்களை உபாத்தினிகளாக நியமித்து சரியானபடி கவனித்து வந்தால் ஷை பாடசாலையையே சக்கண்டரி பாடசாலை யாக்கலாம், இவ்விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தார் சிரத்தையெடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டுகிறேன்.

" தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு ஒவ்வொரு ஜில்லாவிலும் குருகுல வித்யாசாலையேற்படுத்தும்படி கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். சிதம்பரத்தில் நந்தனார் ஹையர் எலிமெண்டரி பாடசாலை தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பினர் சேர்ந்த நந்தனார் கல்விக் கழகத்தாரால் நடத்தப்பட்டுவருகிறது. அங்கு சுமார் 350 பிள்ளைகள் படிக்கிறார்கள். அங்கு 50 பெண் குழந்தைகளுக்கும் 150 ஆண் குழந்தைகளுக்கும் கழகத்தார் ஹாஸ்டல் வைத்து நடத்திவருகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் அதனையே ரெஸிடெண்ட்ஷல் ஹைஸ்கூலாக்கும்படி அரசாங்கத்தார் உதவிபுரிய வேண்டுகிறேன்.

" ஜில்லா லேபர் ஆபீஸர்களால் நடத்திவரும் பாடசாலைகளை எடுக்கக்கூடாது. கிராமங்களில் தாலூக்கா போர்டு பாடசாலை, அல்லது எயிடெட் ஸ்கூல் இருந்தால் அந்த இடத்திலுள்ள லேபர் ஸ்கூலையெடுத்துவருகிறார்கள். போர்டு பாடசாலைகளில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பினரைச்சேர்ப்பதில்லை. திருமூஷ்ணத்திலுள்ள தாலூக் போர்டு பாடசாலையில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட மாணவர்களைச் சேர்க்க முடியவில்லை. சிதம்பரம் தாலூக்கா நஞ்சை மகத்து வாழ்க்கை சேரிபிள்ளைகளை அங்குள்ள போர்டு பாடசாலையில் சேர்க்க முடியவில்லை, போர்டு பாடசாலைகளுக்கு ஜாதி இந்துக்கள் தலைவர்களாதலாலும் தலைவர்கள் மெம்பர்கள் இஷ்டம்போல் நடக்கவேண்டியவர்களாதலாலும் மெம்பர்கள் ஊரிலுள்ள ஓட்டர்கள் இஷ்டம்போல் நடக்க வேண்டியவர்களாதலாலும் ஜாதி இந்துக்களாகிய ஓட்டர்கள் இஷ்டத்திற்கு மாறாகப் போர்டு பாடசாலையில் சேர்ந்து படிக்க முடியாது. எயிடெட் ஸ்கூல்கள் பெரும்பாலும் ஒழுங்காக நடைபெறுது. ஆதலால் அரசாங்கத்தார் முழுச்செலவில் நடத்திவரும் லேபர் ஸ்கூல் இருக்குமிடங்களில் போர்டுஸ்கூலையும் எயிடெட் ஸ்கூலையும் எடுத்து லேபர் ஸ்கூலில்படிக்கும்படி செய்தால் ஸ்கூலும் நன்றாக நடக்கும் யாருக்கும் தடையிராது. இவ்விஷயத்தை கனம் கல்வி இலாக்கா மந்திரியானவர் கவனித்து லேபர் ஸ்கூல்களை எடுக்காதபடி அவசரமான உத்தரவு பிறப்பிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன்.

" பணமுடையதிகமாயிருந்தால் 10 வருஷங்களுக்குச் சட்ட கல்லூரியை மூடி வைக்க வேண்டுகிறேன். தற்போது லா படித்தவர்கள் அதிகம் பேர்கள் வேலையில்லாமல் திண்டாடிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அப்பியாசத்திலும் பணம் வருவதில்லையாதலால் சட்டக்கல்லூரியை நிறுத்துவதால் இதுவரைக்கும் படித்தவர்களுக்கு பாதுகாப்பாயிருப்பதோடு அதனால் மிச்சமாகும் பணத்தை மூலாதாரப்படிப்பிற்குச் செலவழிக்கலாம்.

" ஜில்லா போர்டு, தாலூக்கா போர்டு, முனிசிபல் சபை, பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு இவைகளுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் கல்விக்காக ஏராளமான பணம் அளிக்கிறார்கள். ஸ்தல ஸ்தாபனங்களில் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்க்கென போதுமான பாடசாலைகள் ஏற்படுத்துவதில்லை. உதாரணமாக சிதம்பரம் தாலூக்கா போர்டுக்குச் சொந்தமாக ஏறக்குறைய 80 பாடசாலைகளிலிருக்கலாம். அதில் நான்கு பாடசாலைகள் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு வைத்துள்ளார்கள். இவ்வளவுபணம் தாழ்த்தப்பட்

18th March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

வாக்ருககு செலவழிப்பதென ஒதுக்கி வைத்துவிட்டால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக் குப கல்வி வசதியுண்டாகும். இவ்விஷயததைக் கனம் கல்வியிலாக்கா மந்திரி யவாகள் கவனிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன்.

"சிதம்பரம் தாலுகா காட்டுமன்னார்கோவில் ரேஞ்சு டிப்டி இன்ஸ்பெக்டர் அவாகளை உபாத்தியாா சங்கத்தில் ஜாதிப்பிரிவினையுண்டாக்கியுள்ளாா. லால் பேட்டையில் ஓர் உபாத்தியாயரை அடிப்பதற்குத்துணையாயிருந்தார். லேபர் ஸ்கூல் களை யெடுததுக்கொண்டுவருகிறா. இவ்விஷயததை சிறந்து கவனிக்க வேண்டு கிறேன்."

* Mr. Yakub Hasan:—"Mr. President, Sir, I take this opportunity to thank the Education Minister for having acceded to our request made in the last Budget speeches and for having appointed the Muslim Education Committee. In consideration of that, I will be very sparing in my criticism of him on this occasion. At present I will only tell him that this Committee has taken much pains in making a survey of the whole Muslim education as it stands to-day and has drawn up a report in which all the requirements of the community have been laid down. When the report comes before him, he will find that we have made a very strong case for Muslim education; but at the same time we have been mindful that our demands are only reasonable and not extravagant. Sir, while considering the steps that ought to be taken for bettering the educational position of the Muslim community, one fear was constantly before us, that is, that the little improvement that has been effected here and there may not be obliterated by the Retrenchment Committee's proposals that had to be taken up under the extraordinary circumstances that we are all now passing through. We found, Sir, that some of the retrenchment proposals can be modified without incurring much expenditure. For example, Sir, we found that the greatest difficulty in the way of our education was the paucity of the teachers, especially women teachers. The stipends that were being given to them were found not tempting enough on account of the higher standard of life that Mussalmans are admittedly accustomed to, their household expenditure being much higher than that of any other community, with the result that what might be considered sufficient for others is not sufficient for the upkeep of a Mussalman. If some of these stipends had not been availed of in certain cases, it was because they were too low for the purpose. So, when the question of reducing the stipends, low as they were, came up, we viewed it with very great concern, and we felt that if the axe is applied to the stipends in the manner in which it is proposed to be done, the few teachers who are under training now will cease to undergo their training with the result that when we take up the scheme of Muslim education, we will find that instead of there being a larger number of teachers, the number of teachers will have actually diminished. So, this Committee has adopted a resolution and has addressed it to the Retrenchment Committee; I do not know what was the result of it. I appeal to the Minister that he should see that that request of the Muslim Education Committee is considered favourably.

"In the same way, while considering the question of collegiate education of the Mappillas on the West Coast, we found that most of the Mappillas who have taken degree have graduated from the Brennen

College at Tellicherry, and even now the number undergoing education there, was sufficiently large. We were there really chagrined to know that this college, of all colleges, was chosen to be abolished. From the conversation I had with the Third Minister, I gathered that he was of opinion that the Brennen College should not be abolished and that this decision had been taken in spite of what he put forward in support of the retention of that college. Sir, I would beg of him to make a much bolder stand than he has been making hitherto whenever there is a proposal of reduction that does not have his approval.

"Sir, as there has been an appeal for shortness of speeches, I would not take any more time of this House. All that I want to say is that when the report of the Muslim Education Committee comes before the Minister, he should give it the consideration which it deserves and that he should even send for us and have a consultation with us on any questions on which he does not feel convinced that our demand is reasonable. We should be quite happy to have a talk with him. As this is a question for all time, he should have regard for the future, and not to the present financial position alone. I trust, Sir, he will do his best to meet us as far as possible."

5 Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I
p.m. shall endeavour to be as brief as possible, as several hon. Members desire to speak. The first point that I would like to advert to is about the observation made by more than one hon. Member that in the Education Budget there is a less provision for the current year as compared with the actuals for 1930–31. One hon. Member referred to the fact that the provision for this year is Rs. 55 lakhs less. I have examined the figures very closely. If one goes through the figures for the current year 1931–32 and for the coming year 1932-33, and if the provision is distributed among the respective heads, it does not give the same impression as one would have by being generally told that a sum of Rs. 55 lakhs has been cut in the Education grant. We find, Sir, that under the head of University Education, the Budget Estimate for the year 1932–33 is less by Rs. 37 lakhs than the actual accounts for the year 1930–31. Out of Rs. 37 lakhs, we have to take away the sum of Rs. 36 lakhs which was provided as a non-recurring lump sum grant made in the year 1930–31 for the Andhra University, so that, practically we have very little reduction under that head. Under the head of Secondary Education there is a reduction of Rs. 4 lakhs; under the head of Primary Education there is a reduction of Rs. 5 lakhs. I quite agree with my hon. Friends that even the failure to make increased provision for Education is itself a check upon the activities of the Department and that a check to that extent on the activities of this Department is a great hardship and is an obstruction to the progress of national life and prosperity. But having regard to the general stringency that is prevailing, I should think that, in fairness to the hon. the Minister, we should admit that the reduction is not so alarming as was pointed out by my hon. Friends, Messrs. Shetty and Arasu.

18th March 1932] [Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur]

" When you examine the figures still more closely, you will find that the whole reduction is practically due to the reduction in the amount of scholarships awarded and to the cut in the amount of stipends granted under each of the heads of Education. That is a matter about which I feel I have to enter a protest, because, as has been observed by my hon. Friends, it affects my community a great deal more than probably others. The stipend of Rs. 10-8-0 that was given, was hardly sufficient to maintain scholars, and that feature was always being given out as one of the substantial grounds why people were not attracted in large numbers to the profession. While the sum of Rs. 10-8-0 was itself considered to be insufficient, it was suddenly reduced to Rs. 4-8-0. Surely this will have a very great discouraging effect upon the future entrants into this profession, from my community.

" Sir, reference has been made to the Muslim Education Committee that was appointed by the hon. the Third Minister. My hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, said that that Committee had come to the conclusion that one of the main grounds for the backwardness of the Muhammadan Community in the matter of education is the want of trained teachers, and the paucity of hands who are really efficient to impart suitable instruction. If this drawback has got to go, it is absolutely essential that some encouragement should be given to the training of good and capable teachers. Retrenchment should not affect this vital part of the educational life of the community. As a member of the Muslim Community I must invite the attention of the hon. the Minister to this aspect and I request him to bear this in mind when he passes orders for the coming year on the same question. I understand that, happily, that question has not been decided for the coming year. Whatever else he may do, I trust that he will pause before he sanctions the cut with regard to stipends and scholarships to students and scholars.

" I would like to say a few words with reference to Muslim education generally. The Education Committee has sat and has concluded its labours. I am told that the report has been drawn up though I am not quite certain if it has reached the hands of the hon. Minister. But, not having been a Member of that Committee, I am not in a position to judge what exactly are the lines upon which that Committee has reported. One or two observations I wish to make generally with regard to this matter. There is no doubt that so far as Primary or Elementary education is concerned, statistics show that the Muslim Community has made a fair amount of advance; I believe the figure comes to about 14 per cent of the total strength of pupils, so far as boys are concerned. I submit that that figure is not quite satisfactory, as there is still tremendous wastage and abnormal amount of stagnation in the lowest standards. I quite realize that that feature is common to all communities. But proportionately you will see that this figure works out most prejudicially to the Muslim Community. It is due to want of proper religious instruction in the elementary stages of education; it is also due to want of properly trained teachers; it is due to want of proper instruction in the vernaculars. As I have had occasion

[Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur] [18th March 1932

to observe elsewhere, there is want of the proper atmosphere, to-day, in the schools to inculcate the culture, the real traditions, the true genius of the community. These factors have, to a large extent, contributed to the discouragement of the parents to send their children in large numbers to the schools and to educate them there. I wish to draw the pointed attention of the Government to these circumstances and I request the Government to devise measures to get over this circumstnce; because, it is not worth while that a boy should be put into school for a year and should not have any reminiscence of education when he goes out of the school, or any of the advantages which he should have. Broad questions of franchise are being considered, the test of literacy is being thought of and it is absolutely essential that literacy, the bed-rock of national life, should be extended far and wide so as to cover as large a fraction of the population as possible. I am absolutely certain that it will solve all those communal difficulties that arise very often and which serve as stumbling blocks in the path of national progress.

" Coming then to the other stages of education, the little percentage that you observe in the Elementary education goes down in the matter of Secondary education; the proportion of Muslim scholars to their total strength is very much less; when we come to Collegiate education, the percentage dwindles down still further; when you come to Professional education, the proportion is practically negligible; so that, it seems to me that the working of the Department for the last so many years—in spite of the very kind attention bestowed in the matter of Muslim education—has not resulted in any appreciable progress in the higher stages of education so far as the Muslim community is concerned. It is absolutely essential that there should be uniform progress in all stages of education and steps should be devised to see that the difficulties and drawbacks that exist in the way of uniform progress are effectively got over. It seems to me that in the matter of the progress of Secondary education and Collegiate education, the same difficulties exist as in the matter of Primary education.

" I am entirely at one with my hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta in thinking that religious education should be made an integral part of any scheme of education that is introduced. If religious education is introduced as part of the syllabus in any good system of education, I am sure that educational progress will be far more encouraging and satisfactory than ever. (Interruption.) Some hon. Members behind say ' Question.' I am absolutely certain that if you take a referendum from all the communities that have a culture of their own, that have a civilization of their own, they will be of the opinion that there will be greater progress achieved if religious education is made part and parcel of the Educational system in vogue.

" I wish to say one word more before I close. Some hon. Gentlemen opposite and I think my hon. Friend Mr. Sreshta made what I should think a very unwarranted observation, viz., that the Madras Presidency College should be altogether wiped out. I do not know what exactly is the justification for such a wide—and may I say wild—statement. I am

18th March 1932] [Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur]

an alumnus of that institution and I am proud of that institution. I am one of those who feel that so long as the Madras Government exists the Presidency College also should exist."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" Mr. President, Sir, it is my duty to join the chorus of praise already sung by my hon. Friends in thanking the hon. the Education Minister for redeeming the pledge he made last year that he would appoint a Committee to go into the question of Muslim Education. My further request to him would be that he should be kind enough to see that the report and the recommendations are sympathetically considered. I would add that financial stringency should not stand in the way of giving encouragement to Muslim education. My own point of view is that the department of Education is not one which the retrenchment axe should be allowed to touch; it should not be allowed to touch the subject of education so far at any rate as the special communities are concerned, Muslims and Depressed Classes alike.

" Because, Sir, these are days in which nationalism and national 5 p education are kept in view, and particularly now it will be very hard on these backward communities if the retrenchment axe is allowed to touch them in the matter of education. My friends have already pointed out that in the matter of Muslim education, the Government have been paying special attention to it for some decades past; but may I be permitted to point out that that special attention to Muslim education was really given only some years ago but now it is only formal? I would request the hon. the Education Minister to make that special attention real even now, and sincere.

" While on this subject, I should like to draw the attention of the hon. the Education Minister to one or two drawbacks in the administration of this department. My friend Mr. Arasu has already pointed out that in the matter of the administration of the Queen Mary's College, there were some defects and that no remedies have been made as yet, in spite of the pointing out of such defects. I would only like to add that in so far as one or two institutions have come within my own knowledge in Trichinopoly, I have got the same complaint to make, and my complaint is all the more strong in the cases to which I refer; viz., the Government Islamia High School at Trichinopoly and the Women's Training School for Purdah Women at Trichinopoly. In regard to these institutions, the Government thought it fit to nominate advisory boards. When they nominated these boards, it only stands to reason to expect Government to heed to what recommendations these advisory bodies make; because in both these institutions, these advisory bodies have been taking some pains for the improvement and progress of the institutions placed in their charge. And it so happened that when there was no proper administration of these institutions, the matter was brought to the notice of both the Government and the Director of Public Instruction. Specific instances were pointed out and a request was made that there

[P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur] [18th March 1932

should be a change in the administration of the institutions. The only net result was, Sir, that so far as the Islamia High School was concerned, one of the assistants who was doing his work most properly and efficiently among all the assistants in that school was ordered to go out of that institution. That was the net result of having pointed out to the authorities the drawbacks of the administration. Certainly, Sir, this is not the way in which an institution, particularly meant for advancing the education of backward communities should be dealt with. Similarly, in regard to the Training School for Purdah Women also, there was a similar complaint made, and absolutely no heed was given to the complaint made by the advisory body of that institution. In bringing these two points to the special notice of the hon. the Education Minister, I am only requesting him to take some personal interest in these institutions and satisfy himself whether the complaints made by persons entrusted by the Government with the responsibility of advising them on matters pertaining to the institutions, should not be heeded and whether their recommendations should not be carried out. I would beg to point out that it is the duty of the Government to see that such defects are remedied and that these institutions are put under proper administration.

" Another point, Sir, with reference to the Islamia High School of Trichinopoly, to which I would draw the special attention of the Minister is that of its accommodation. Even now, the hon. the Minister laughs at me when I draw his attention to it; but may I point out that this is a longstanding grievance? This school was taken charge of by the Government more than twelve years ago, and though the Government made a definite promise to provide a proper building immediately after the transfer of the institution to their hands from the Association concerned, though twelve long years have passed, still the building is as bad as when Government took charge. Government proposed and even allotted some money for the purpose. As a matter of fact, His Excellency Lord Goschen, the then Governor of Madras, when he visited Trichinopoly, was to have laid the foundation stone in the year 1928 and up to now the foundation stone has not been laid. This year, I may point out, even the small provision that was to be made for the institution has been dropped. Retrenchment cannot certainly be an apology for a demand like this. The need has been long-felt and even the hon. the Education Minister has come and visited the institution and has been personally satisfied that the want of a proper building is a great drawback to a growing institution like the Islamia High School. Sir, the axe of retrenchment has not touched bungalows being built for the officers of Government. Certainly a bungalow is a luxury when compared to a building for a school which is suffering for want of proper accommodation for years now."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Will the hon. Member be taking a long time? "

Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir, I shall finish in two minutes.

18th March 1932] [P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur]

"My friend Mr. Yahya Ali has already drawn the attention of Government to the question of stipends. I would only add that the main difficulty in the way of Muslim education is the lack of trained teachers. These stipends are mostly paid to Mussalmans or the backward classes. The way in which the stipends have been cut down makes one feel that the Education Minister wants to cut down the education grant of Mussalmans in particular. I hope and trust that the hon. the Minister for Education will see that the matter is looked into and that no room is given for any such accusation against the Education department."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1046 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th March 1932, page 475 supra.]

Statement showing the cost of special pays of all kinds as at present and as proposed by the Retrenchment Committee and the consequent savings.

Department.	Present cost per annum.	Proposed cost per annum.	Savings per annum.	Savings accepted by Government up to 1st March 1932.
	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKHS.	LAKH.
5. Land Revenue	·33	·04	·29	·10
6. Excise	·49	·36	·13	..
8. and 52 A. Forest	1·03	·72	·31	·04
9. Registration	·28	·13	·15	·13
15. Irrigation, etc.	·01	·01	..	..
22. General Administration	1·25	·91	·34	·05
24. Administration of Justice	1·15	1·08	·07	..
25. Jails and Convict Settlements	·22	·17	·05	·03
26. Police	2·76	2·30	·46	·11
30. Scientific Departments	·02	·02	..	..
31. Education	1·04	·45	·59	·06
32. Medical	2·31	·90	1·41	·01
33. Public Health	·26	·17	·09	·01
34. Agriculture—				
Agriculture	·07	·03	·04	·01
Veterinary	·14	·06	·08	·04
Co-operative Credit	·05	·02	·03	..
35. Industries—				
Industries including Cinchona ..	{·08 ·03}	{·01 ·03}	·07	·03
Fisheries..	·03	·01	·02	..
37. Miscellaneous Departments	·25	·03	·22	·17
41. Civil Works	·84	·71	·13	·01
46. Stationery and Printing	.01	·01	..	..
55. Irrigation, Cauvery-Mettur Project ..	·03	·01	·02	·01
Total ..	12·68	8·18	4·50	·81

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1049 asked by Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 18th March 1932, page 477 supra.]

Extract of " Police Gazette."

139. *Mob charge by small squads.*—The following " mob charge " may be substituted in the case of small squads of station police or squads of men not yet thoroughly trained in lathi drill.

The squad will be drawn up in line and then formed into two ranks by the order " Odd numbers, three paces to the rear-march." Both ranks will then be extended at full intervals, the rear rank men covering the intervals in the front rank. At the command " Ready ", both ranks will bring their lathis sharply up pointing straight in front in a line from the shoulder. On the command " Charge " the squad will advance with a shout at the march with long firm steps, a jab or slash with the lathi being delivered at the face or neck of a member of the mob as forcibly as possible with each step. Each man will utter the word " Ha " loudly at each jab or slash. When the mob breaks, the police will forthwith hreak into the double and continue the pursuit till the mob is utterly dispersed. At one long whistle blast the men will desist from pursuit and re-form in squad where they happen to be. For the command " Charge " a short whistle blast followed by a loud one may be substituted, and this should also be taught. The men must understand clearly that the lathis are given to be used in dealing blows, and not to threaten with. Head constables will be practised in command, and every effort will be made to ensure that small squads of station or reserve police are prepared to attack on their own initiative with confidence and energy when required.

Add the following at the end of the section:—

" The mob charge prescribed above is intended for use only against formidable mobs. Where considerable resistance to dispersal is unlikely the force employed by the Police should be carefully regulated to what is required to effect dispersal and blows should not be directed at the head or faces of the opponents. A few blows with switches or light canes should be sufficient to disperse very small assemblies."

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Saturday, the 19th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Bayappa Reddi, Mr. P.
Beyahani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Foulkes, Mr. R.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Harischandrudu Nayudu, Mr. A.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pattagar of Palayakottai, The
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Winter, Capt. W. E.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Chemudu, The.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Law and Order—General

Seizure of photos of national leaders.

* 1054 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued orders to the Police to seize all photos of national leaders from individuals or from places of business and destroy the same;

(*b*) what is the justification or authority for the Police to seize, snatch and destroy pictures and portraits, etc., of national leaders in the custody of individuals or hung up in places of business like shops and coffee clubs and hotels, etc.; and

(*c*) if the said act by the Police is unauthorized, what the Government propose to do to put a stop to such violation of private rights?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Pictures and portraits of leaders of the Civil Disobedience Movement should be considered to fall under sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, as amended by section 63 of the Emergency Powers Ordinance II of 1932 and the Amending Ordinance VII of 1932. If so, they would be unauthorized news-sheets according to the definitions in section 2 of the Act. Power to seize unauthorized news-sheets is conferred upon the Police, and power to order their destruction is conferred upon certain magistrates, by section 16 of the Act.

(*c*) Does not arise.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask whether the Advocate-General has been consulted before this opinion has been placed on the table of the House? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" There is no necessity for consulting the Advocate-General, because Government have not issued any special instructions on the subject. The question merely asks whether it is a fact that Government have issued orders to the Police to seize photos, etc., and the answer is we have not issued any orders."

19th March 1932]

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" With reference to the second sentence of the answer to clause (*b*), it is stated ' If so, they would be unauthorized news-sheets according to the definitions in section 2 of the Act.' May I ask, Sir, whether Government is not sure of its own mind? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" We have not issued instructions, but we have merely stated the law as it is."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know, Sir, if the photos of Pandit Motilal Nehru and Tilak come under this clause? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" I must ask for notice of the question."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" May I know who is the authority that determines which pictures and portraits of leaders of the Civil Disobedience Movement come under these heads ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" It is left to the discretion of the Police authorities. As I say, the Government have not issued any orders on the subject."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask why, in the month of January last, several photos of Mahatma Gandhi and also of Vallabhai Patel were seized from people who had purchased them from shops and when they were taking them to their respective homes, they were destroyed on the spot? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" I am not sure about the facts. If any such thing has been done, it must be according to law."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Do photographs of National Leaders kept in private houses and purchased long before the Civil Disobedience Movement started come under this Ordinance? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" There is no use asking these questions, because Government have not issued any instructions to the Police on this subject."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know, Sir, whether the Police have entered some hotels where portraits of National Leaders were kept and removed them ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" If the hon. Member will give me specific instances, I will go into the question and see whether such action is legal or illegal."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the importance of this question, namely, whether private owners of these pictures and portraits come under this Ordinance, may I ask the hon. Home Member whether Government will propound the law definitely? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
" It is not necessary, because we have not issued any instructions, as I have already stated."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Were not instances in which photos had been seized by the Police brought to the notice of the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " No, Sir."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Neither through individuals nor through the Press?"

(*No reply.*)

Number of convictions for offences connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement since January 1932.

* 1055 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total number of convictions in this Presidency is for Civil Disobedience under the Ordinances or other penal laws since the Civil Disobedience Movement began in January 1932;

(*b*) in how many of them has the sentence of more than six months' imprisonment been passed; and

(*c*) what the total amount of fines realized is from convictions for Civil Disobedience?

A.—(*a*) 1,246, up to the end of February.

(*b*) 539, up to the end of February.

(*c*) The total amount of fines imposed is Rs. 91,760.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" May I know, Sir, whether either the Government or the Inspector-General of Police have issued circulars to Magistrates to impose very heavy fines and sentences on Civil Disobedience prisoners?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " No, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" Clause (*c*) of the question wants information as to the total amount of fines realized. The answer given shows the total amount imposed. May I know the actual amount realized?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have no figures in my office. If, however, the hon. Member insists, I have no objection to collect the information."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar:—" May I know what percentage this number 1,246 bears to the total number of prisoners convicted in all jails in the Presidency under the Criminal Procedure Code?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I must ask for notice of the question."

19th March 1932]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know from the hon. Member whether it is a fact that, even after they apologise, they are compelled to pay the fines before they are released from the jail ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" I must enquire."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know, in view of the fact that the fines work out to an average of Rs. 800 per head, whether the hon. Member does not consider the fines very heavy ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" The average works out only to about Rs. 175. This fine was imposed on 525 prisoners."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, why in many cases the alternative of imprisonment is not enforced, but only fine is imposed or property seized ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" It is left to the Magistracy to follow the existing law on the subject."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether it is not a fact that Mr. P. Mahomed Usman of Namakkal even after his having apologised was not released from jail until he paid the fine or he underwent the term of imprisonment imposed in default of payment of fine ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" I do not know the facts of the case. I shall enquire."

Lathi charge on Congress processionists in Rajapalaiyam.

* 1056 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge on peaceful Congress processionists in Rajapalaiyam on 13th February 1932; if so, how many were injured;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that they were treated in the local hospital; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a copy of the accident register relating to their injuries;

(*c*) whether after the medical treatment was over the volunteers were taken from the hospital by the Police in a bus and left 4 miles north of Rajapalaiyam in a jungle;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that when about 8 p.m. they returned and were passing the Police station, the Circle Inspector of Police ordered them to run and on failure threatened to beat them;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that one Mr. I. B. Rangaswami Raju who could not run owing to the severe injuries, was pulled and thrashed severely by the Policemen till he became unconscious; and

(*f*) whether he was again treated by the local Government doctor; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a statement from the doctor regarding the injuries, their number and nature?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, why it has not been possible to get the information early ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because we have no information, we have called for it."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether this information has been called for by means of telegram and, if not, whether he will be pleased to do so ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir. It is not possible to get information by telegram."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Whether the hon. Member will place the information on the Table of the House after it is got ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"In the usual way it will be supplied."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether there is any chance of the information being received before the Council closes ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I cannot say, Sir."

Alleged ill-treatment of Messrs. A. V. Kunhambu and M. V. Chindan Nayar by the Police.

* 1057 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that A. V. Kunhambu and M. V. Chindan Nayar were taken to the Police station on their refusal to cease picketing Ramachandra Maliga & Son's cloth shop in Kasaragod on 7th March 1932, and beaten by the Police with hands and canes and subsequently taken into the lock-up where they were beaten by the Sub-Inspector with cane and then pushed out ;

(*b*) whether, when they again returned to picket, they were again taken to the station and similarly beaten by the Police and Sub-Inspector ;

(*c*) whether they were taken walking at about 1 a.m. (after midnight) by the Police to a house about five miles away and then left there ; and

(*d*) whether it is a fact that all the while they were made to starve ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

Police

Outlay on lathis and canes.

* 1058 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the outlay on lathis and canes so far this year has been;

(*b*) what the stock now left is; and

(*c*) what further quantity the Government propose to supply to the Police during the next four months?

19th March 1932]

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information nor is it available in the office of the Inspector-General of Police. The collection of information from districts will take time and the labour involved will be considerable.

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know, Sir, under whose orders these canes have been purchased?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "They form part of the equipment."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Who sanctions their purchase?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "Sanctioned several years ago. (As part of the equipment)."

Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether they are ordered by the Inspector-General of Police or whether they are ordered for each district separately by the respective District Superintendent of Police?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "There have been no such special orders for their purchase, because, as I say, they form part of the equipment of the Police."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Clause (*a*) of the question does not require any reference to the District Superintendents. Can the hon. Member furnish the information with regard to this clause?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "If the hon. Member wants this information, I shall get it, but it will take some time."

Maintenance of chargers or motor bykes by Police officers.

* 1059 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government insist on Police Officers maintaining chargers or motor bykes and cars;

(*b*) whether such a condition is insisted on in the case of the better paid officers of other departments; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose this in the case of all officers who are now drawing and to whom it is proposed to give a fixed travelling allowance; if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) Gazetted officers generally are required to maintain a horse or a motor vehicle.

(*b*) A similar requirement is made in the case of touring officers of the Indian Civil Service, of the Revenue Department and officers of and above the rank of Assistant Inspectors in the Excise department employed on preventive duty.

[19th March 1932

(c) No. A fixed travelling allowance is granted to an officer who has to tour constantly within a certain specified and generally restricted area, by way of composition of the travelling allowances which would otherwise be admissible to him under the ordinary travelling allowance rules. There is no necessary or logical connexion between the composition of travelling allowances due to an officer and the maintenance of a particular type of conveyance by that officer. The Government do not therefore propose to prescribe the maintenance of any particular mode of conveyance in the case of officers in receipt of fixed travelling allowance as such prescription is unnecessary.

Local Self-Government

Reservation of seats for Adi-Dravidas by the Chingleput District Board.

* 1060 Q.—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have interfered with the decisions arrived at by the Chingleput District Board at its meeting held on the 28th November 1931 to the effect that one of the four reserved seats intended for the Adi-Dravidas should be assigned to the Sriperumbudur taluk;

(b) the reasons for reversing the decision of the District Board; and

(c) whether they similarly dealt with the allocation of the seats for women made by the District Board by the majority faction in the said Board to the revenue firkas of Tirupporur and Wallajabad?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Government considered it unnecessary to allot a reserved seat to the Sriperumbudur taluk in addition to five non-reserved seats. As Saidapet is the most important taluk in the district it was thought undesirable to deprive it of the seat for Adi-Dravidas given there.

(c) No. The district board's resolution was accepted.

Exemption from the payment of tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Act.

* 1061 Q.—Mr. F. E. James: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) what classes of persons are exempt from payment of the tax leviable under the Madras Motor Vehicle Taxation Act, 1931; and

(b) what individuals are exempt from such payment?

19th March 1932]

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.Os. Nos. 1110-A, L. & M., dated 31st March 1931, 4875, L. & M., dated 16th December 1931, and 580, L. & M., dated 13th February 1932, which have already been placed on the table of the House.

Education

Facilities for completing the G.D.A. course.

* 1062 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) what provision the Government propose to make for the students now in the first year G.D.A. course in the Government Institute of Commerce, Madras, for the completion of the course during the second year;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the South Indian and Malabar Chambers of Commerce have protested to Government against the proposed abolition of the commercial institutions maintained by the Government at Madras and Calicut respectively; and

(*c*) if so, what action the Government propose to take to afford facilities for the promotion of commercial education in this Presidency?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) Representations have been received from the South Indian Chamber of Commerce and the Malabar Chamber of Commerce regarding the proposal to abolish the commercial institutions managed by Government.

The whole question of the future of these institutions is under consideration.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know, Sir, what it costs Government for running this institution in Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there are a large number of private commercial colleges in the City of Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I know there is at least one, but I do not know if there are a number of them."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask the hon. Minister whether, in view of the existence of these private institutions, Government will consider the question of discontinuing the Government College of Commerce ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Thanks for the suggestion. That is also, I think, the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know what the definite proposal of Government is in order to give facilities for those students who have completed their first year course?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"That is a matter of detail and the whole question is under consideration."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know, Sir, when the consideration of the question will be over?"

The hon Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot say exactly, but it will be as quickly as possible."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I take it that the consideration of the proposal will be completed in order to give those students who are desirous of continuing the commercial courses a chance to get admission in private colleges?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Certainly."

Admission into the Government Institute of Commerce, Madras.

* 1063 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state the total number of admissions during the last five years in the Government Institute of Commerce at Madras and the school at Calicut classified according to communities?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the subsidiary tables appended to the annual reports on Public Instruction.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—DISPERSAL BY THE POLICE OF THE "BUY INDIAN LEAGUE" PROCESSION AT NARASAPUR.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, may I ask the hon. the Home Member whether the Government are aware that at Narasapur some days ago some members of the 'Buy Indian' League when they went about distributing 'Buy Indian' leaflets, the Police beat them severely and dispersed them by caning?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"As I said the other day, Government were aware of it and the moment it was brought to my notice, I thought I ought to issue instructions to the Police authorities to do nothing to endanger the 'Buy Indian' propaganda. Therefore, instructions were issued to the District Magistrates and to the Commissioner of Police and at the same time letters were written to the President and Secretary of the League to get into touch with these officials, so that the working of the League may be harmonious and that nothing untoward might happen. Mr. Shiva Rao, the Secretary of the League, saw the Chief Secretary yesterday and has discussed with him as to what should be done in connexion with the

Buy Indian League propaganda. Sufficient instructions have been given to the authorities not to do anything to endanger the Buy Indian propaganda. If any further suggestions are made as to the instructions to be issued in order to make sure that nothing is done against the League, I am prepared to consider them. As I have said, if hon. Members have any suggestions to make to the Government, they will be considered."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I would like to suggest that, in view of the attitude of the Government already disclosed that the Police officers are likely to mistake the Buy Indian League processionists or propagandists to be Congressmen or pseudo-Congressmen as has been talked of in this Council and then persecute them and prosecute them, the Government would issue definite instructions that, whoever it may be, if they are connected with the Buy Indian League and not actively connected with any form of Civil Disobedience, then they should not be molested or prosecuted or brought under the clutches of the law in so far as they carry on propaganda only for Buy Indian League. I want to ask the hon. Home Member whether Government will issue instructions to the Police officers all over the Presidency to this effect ?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have no objection to consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether as a result of the interview with the Chief Secretary by the Secretary of the Buy Indian League, any definite conclusions have been come to and whether Government are proposing to make any kind of restrictions on the operations of this League and, if so, what conditions they expect the Buy Indian League to comply with for carrying on their propaganda ?"

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They have already been stated in the letter to the Secretary and the President of the League."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I want to know, Sir, whether instructions will be issued to Police officers that they should not take any action even against Congressmen who are engaged in Civil Disobedience Movement, when they are engaged in the Buy Indian propaganda ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If they do things lawfully, we have no objection."

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.

DEMAND XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED—*cont.*

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The discussion on Demand XVII—Education—Transferred, will be resumed."

* Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I consider that any one who takes upon himself the responsibility of the Minister in charge of Education, takes upon himself a very serious responsibility. He has ample scope of extending the mental horizon of 11. a.m.

[Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar] [19th March 1932

the people of his Province by the diffusion of education. The first thing that the Minister is expected to do as soon as the subject is transferred is to have a grip of the whole department and also to see that real patriotism—and not pseudo-patriotism, or pseudo-nationalism—is brought to bear in the discharge of his duties—a real and righteous kind of patriotism in which all may take part. (Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro: 'Unsullied patriotism.') Therefore, I would suggest to the hon. Minister for Education to pay attention to the steps that ought to be taken in that direction. Sir, it is now ten years since the Department has been transferred to popular control; and I would like the Minister to tell us what steps have been taken to infuse the right kind of spirit into the children. As has been adverted to yesterday, the only atmosphere in which we can hope to bring all people together under one banner is under broad-minded religious toleration and religious understanding. Unless the boys are trained in such an atmosphere and their actions are guided and regulated by the ethics and morals of the great religious Founders, it will not conduce to the national well-being. Many of the hon. Gentlemen who have preceded me seemed to think that the subject of religion should be confined in water-tight compartments. But I would say that is not so. I would say that teachers who are employed in this branch must be chosen men—people who are eminently fit to do it—so that there may be a regular understanding between the teacher and the taught, a family as if it were in which plenty of love and affection is shown to the taught, so that the character of the taught may be moulded on right lines even at the beginning. We will have to remember that the students who go out of our institutions should turn out to be good citizens. Every student who leaves our colleges and schools, who follows any particular faith should not only be enabled to honour the Founders of his own religion and the ideals which that religion stands for but also those of other religions.

"It has been suggested by one hon. Member that provision should be made for the study of religion in the B.A., or in the higher courses of study. It is long overdue. It is of absolute importance. It is indispensable that a student should know about every religion; he must respect his own religion and that of the others; he must be able to find out the truths that are imbedded in every one of the religions and find out the essentials. He should not be led away by any one-sided statement regarding a religion, but should find out the essentials throwing away the unessentials. Steps in this direction has already been taken. Dr. Annie Beasant has issued a book called the 'Universal Text Book of Religion and Morals.' In this book every religion has been treated, fundamental principles have been taken up and authorities have been given for every one of the statements made therein. It has been issued in three sections. The first section deals with principles, the second with morals and ethics and the third deals with Hinduism, because a larger portion of people in this country belong to that religion. The spirit of tolerance set on foot in this publication should spread. Every one of our schools and colleges—be they Christian, Hindu, Moslem or Government—should become a Pantheon as it were in which all religions

19th March 1932] [Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar]

should be respected, honoured and revered. If such a thing occurs, it will be an asset to the civilization in this country.

" In this connexion, I would request the hon. Minister to consider the place of Sanskrit in our curriculum. This language has been allowed to recede to the background. Every one knows what Sanskrit has contributed to the Hindu culture and literature. (Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam: 'What about Tamil?') Tamil too must have its own place; and it has. In Oxford and Cambridge, students have to study Sanskrit. It will be well to study the Persian literature, and the great philosophy of the Christian philosophers of the eighth century which has not yet been unearthed. I would request that the study of ancient classical literature must be made compulsory in this land. Students who go to Cambridge are asked to learn Greek, Latin and Sanskrit. It is a pity that in this land, the birth-place of that language, it is being neglected and our children are robbed of their birthright of learning the same. I consider that Persian and Zorastrian also should be introduced. If we are to have a Government based on righteousness—it could be only based on tolerance—these things would be brought within the reach of our students by the study of our ancient literature. There is no use of party system, the democratic system, the socialistic system or any other system unless the system of Government is based on tolerance. I therefore appeal to the hon. Minister to restore Sanskrit to its original place in our literature and to do everything in his power to have it introduced in all our colleges and schools. There is no life without love after all, Sir.

" Sir, I shall now come to the question of training schools. Hitherto Government were paying a stipend of Rs. 10 per teacher undergoing training; but now they have decided to cut it down to Rs. 7 and that too retrospectively, I think, from April last. I had occasion to write to the hon. the Minister for Education to rectify this error and to render justice. In almost all cases, the teachers undergoing training in normal schools are poor people—most of them are in rags. In August last, an order was sent stating that the stipends were to be reduced to Rs. 7 from the month of April last. We have heard officers of the Judicial and Revenue Departments drawing 4 to 5 thousands of rupees on account of retrospective promotions; but we have not seen an injustice like this where people drawing a poor stipend of Rs. 10 per mensem receive a cut of Rs. 3 per mensem and that too with retrospective effect. It is really a cruelty and a cruelty which the hon. Minister could rectify. Why carry out retrenchment in this way? There are other and better ways of retrenching expenditure. Cannot you reduce the number of districts? The officers of the Revenue Department have now been relieved of the administration of municipalities, taluk boards, district boards and also income-tax. A good deal may be done in the Department by way of retrenchment. Instead of that, to fall upon poor people whose only means of livelihood is their stipends is an injustice. Again we are told that there is a circular issued that even the travelling allowances of Deputy Inspectors of Schools have to be retrenched and the same is to take effect from the last 44 months. If the officers are asked to pay back the excess amount drawn for the last 44 months, you will understand

[Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar] [19th March 1932

the enormous suffering it will involve. I shall request the hon. Minister to try his best to remedy the grievances of these officers. At this time when there is economic depression all round, it will be a great act of humanity and justice to restore to the teachers under training in normal schools their full stipend of Rs. 10 per mensem and not to cut the travelling allowance of the Deputy Inspectors of Schools with effect from such a long distance of time as 44 months.

30 n. "Then, Sir, there is another point that I would like to stress upon, *i.e.*, in the villages there are several teachers and they are *not* well off with regard to their remuneration. Now, what I would suggest to the hon. Education Minister is that in these cases these teachers should be given training in native medicine, that is, given instructions in rudimentary principles of medicine, so that the villagers can fall back upon these teachers for medical treatment instead of falling a prey into the hands of the quacks.

"Then, Sir, I would also suggest that the teachers should be religiously trained. They should be put in charge of certain *bhajana* temples where they should conduct bhajana so that the general moral tone of the village might be improved. Thus the village teacher should combine in himself the threefold functions of a teacher, a doctor and a religious instructor. These are the things to which I want the hon. the Minister for Education to turn his attention immediately.

"The next topic to which I call the attention of the hon. Minister is how to maintain the continuity between the lower elementary education and the higher elementary education. Already the complaint is increasing day by day that the lower elementary education is a mere waste of money. To effect the continuity of education the foundation for the upper elementary schools should be laid in the lower elementary schools and then only the money that is now spent on lower elementary schools will not be a waste. This idea was common in this land for a long time past. It was very common in ancient days. And it was so common in the villages that no less a person than Sir Thomas Munro in his famous despatch made mention of it. He has said that the villagers were perfectly civilized; they knew how to carry on their business; the education that prevailed there was of a high order; and that it could very easily compete with English education. Thus our Minister can tackle this question very easily. Let him think about it, and I am sure, if he does, he will surely be able to find out a remedy, so that the ladder may be built up brick by brick between the lower and higher education. If he does this, then the gap that now exists between the mass of the people and those who have received a higher education will disappear. If he does this he would have rendered a noble service to his country and he would be earning the good will and reverence of his own people."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to remind hon. Members that the Demand will be put to vote at 12-35; and the hon. Minister may require about 15 minutes for reply. As there is a large number of Members anxious to speak I would request hon. Members to cut short their speeches."

19th March 1932]

* Rao Sahib D. KRISHNAMURTI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I did not want to join in this debate, but I am compelled to take part by a sense of duty which makes me rise up in my seat and say a few words against the statement made by Mr. Arasu. Talking about women teachers he remarked that the moral standard of ladies employed in Educational service is low and he requested the hon. Minister to set it right. I submit that nothing can be more inhuman than to attack women, our own sisters and mothers and that behind their back when they have no opportunity of replying to it. Sir, he attacked them in a most libellous and scurrilous manner, and it is quite uncharitable to attack them on the floor of this House. I do not know on what particular data he based his remarks. I submit no self-respecting Member of this House would endorse his views, and I request the hon. Members of this House to dissociate themselves from his remarks. Sir, I will go a little further and just remind the House the remarks made by the hon. Chief Minister the other day about Mr. Arasu. Before he was nominated he was proclaiming himself that he took an active part against the Civil Disobedience Movement, and perhaps it was on that ticket he got entrance into this House, and the next day after he got himself nominated he joined the ranks of the Opposition."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" On a point of order, Sir, . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is not in order in referring to Mr. Arasu's past political achievements."

* Rao Sahib D. KRISHNAMURTI :—" I drop that matter. I would have left the matter there but for the fact that the traditions and dignity of this House would be considerably lowered in the estimation of the public if attacks of this type went uncontradicted. *(At this stage Mr. Arasu entered the House amidst laughter.)*

" We all remember towards the end of Valmiki's immortal classic Ramayana, Rama divorced his pregnant wife, Sita, simply because a certain washerman in his quarrel with his wife remarked that he would not take his wife back as he was not shameless Rama to take back Sita. In Roman history we read about Caesar's wife, Calphurnia, a similar story. Caesar's wife should be above suspicion. A woman values nothing more than her fair name. I stand here to vindicate the self-respect and fair name of our educated women and my hon. Friend Mr. Arasu's remarks are not only undesirable but are also defamatory and deserve to be expunged from the proceedings of this House."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" On a matter of personal explanation, Sir, I never said any such thing." (Laughter.)

* Rao Sahib D. KRISHNAMURTI :—" I took a copy of the hon. Member's speech from the official reporters just now and read his statement that the moral standard of our lady teachers has gone down."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" I said it will have to be raised in the estimation of the public." (Laughter.)

[19th March 1932

* Rao Sahib D. KRISHNAMURTI :—" That comes to the same thing. (Laughter.) Any way, Sir, I would advise every Member of this House not to treat the statement of Mr. Arasu too seriously and I leave it there and proceed to another subject.

" Last time I requested the hon. Minister to be a little partial towards the Rajahmundry Government Arts College and the Brennen College at Tellicherry, and I asked him not to abolish those institutions. Those two are long-standing institutions and they are greatly helpful towards the promotion of collegiate education. I request the hon. the Finance Member and the hon. the Education Minister to find money somehow or other to run these two institutions. Sir, Brennen College at Tellicherry in the West Coast is, I understand, greatly useful in promoting collegiate education there and, specially it is affording educational facilities to the Mappillas, a sect of Muhammadans who are generally backward in education as compared with other communities. I request the hon. Minister to maintain these two institutions at any cost.

" Another subject that I wish to refer to is the necessity of free and compulsory elementary education. Sir Patro, while he was Minister, took the first step in this direction in our Presidency, and long before him the láte lamented Mr. Gokhale brought forward a Bill in the old Imperial Legislative Council for the same purpose. It was discussed all over India, the opinion of Local Governments was gathered and finally the scheme was thrown out for want of funds. In our days Sir Patro worked at it and to-day I appeal to the Minister to take up the cause now that it has been left over. No doubt these are days of great financial stress and still I urge an attempt be made in this direction, and if it is done it will certainly make the Justice Party popular and the people literate and advance the cause of common weal."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Mr. President, Sir, according *to the instructions given by you I shall not take more than 10 minutes.*"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I gave no instructions; I only threw a suggestion." (Laughter.)

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" At any rate according to your suggestion I shall not take much time. My first appeal to the hon. Minister for Education is with reference to the general question of changing his whole outlook on Education in this country. It will be found in the old records of the East India Company, in the despatch they sent to the Board of Directors that the object of having English education in this country was to produce men who will be useful in assisting the foreigners in the administration of the country, and helping them to exploit the country most successfully. I have seen some of those despatches and it is plain from them that it is with this object that English education was started in the country. From the system that now obtains in the country, I am only confirmed in that belief. Now it is high time, in view of our past experience, in view of the changes that are happening and in view of the changes that are sure to happen very soon, that this outlook on education is changed. If we are to adopt the system the foreign Government is now adopting, then we can never take the reins of Government into our hands. One of the reasons why the standard of salaries, particularly those of higher officials, is so highly

19th March 1932] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

fixed is to make Government service more attractive to the people of the land so that more and more men may come to their assistance. I am sorry I am not in a position to dwell at length on this topic, but yet I think the hon. Minister will take my suggestion seriously and try to consider the whole question from a broad point of view and find ways and means of overhauling the present system and take the initiative in the matter with a view to effect the necessary reforms. I am fully aware that this is a large question, this is an All-India question and it is up to the Government to take the initiative. Now, Sir, within the short time at my disposal I will refer to a few of the particular grievances of my community and my district. No doubt the Muslim Education Committee has completed its sittings and its report will be in the hands of the Government very soon. And I certainly do not think, and I also trust the other Muslim members are of the same opinion, that Government are going to accept all its recommendations. For there are certain matters which will have to await the decision of the Government and they usually take rather a long time to do that.

" The first matter of urgency which I would like to refer to is the 11
question of the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee to a
abolish the Brennen College. I really thank the Retrenchment Committee for some of its proposals, for instance for the recommendation to abolish the Alipuram Jail. But such a Committee should have recommended the abolition of the Brennen College is beyond my comprehension. The only way in which I can explain it is perhaps that as all human beings they were at times in a slumber when this question came up and Mr. Schamnad, the stalwart champion of the Muslim cause, was not sufficiently in time to wake them up and make them realize the actual result which will arise. No doubt Mr. Schamnad has sent in his dissenting minute and I am sure if an opportunity is given to the Committee to reconsider the question I have no doubt that they will all with one voice rescind the decision regarding the Brennen College. The Education Minister has recently been to Malabar and has seen things for himself and so I think it is not necessary for me to plead for the retention of the college. If the Brennen College is to be abolished, it will be the greatest death blow to higher education of the Mappillas of Malabar.

" Then there is the question of the abolition of the stipends. I certainly join with the other hon. Members who spoke against the abolition of the stipends of these training colleges and I do say that the question of retrenchment ought not to have persuaded the Government and even the Retrenchment Committee to make such proposals. But I am sure that the Government will consider the question in a more sympathetic manner and in any event I would request the Government to exempt the Muslims from the operation of the stoppage of the stipends. If at all stipends were to be stopped. I further urge that the reduction of stipends has already worked great hardship and many students who were in the training schools has already stopped on account of the cutting short of the amount of the stipends. I would request Government, at any rate in the case of the Muslim students, to restore it to its former amount.

[B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur] [19th March 1932

" One other matter, Sir, to which I would like to invite the attention of the hon. the Education Member with the co-operation of the hon. the Chief Minister perhaps is this. Manjeri is the very centre of the Ernad taluk which was the centre of all rebellious activities, and the Malabar District Board passed resolutions twice to allow the Mappilla students of the Malabar District Board school to be free from the payments of school fees. But both times the Government has turned this down. I do not know exactly on what ground. I put an interpellation the other day and I was told that it is on the ground that it was a case of a resolution recommending the abolition of the school fee in the case of the rich as well as the poor Mappilla students. Now, Sir, the ground on which the abolition is urged is not only on the ground of poverty, but to encourage Mappillas in the matter of education. Therefore the fact that there may be some students who are rich and capable of paying fees being benefited is no ground to reject a recommendation especially when such a resolution was passed by the Malabar District Board twice and recommendations were made to Government twice. I would request the Minister to reconsider and accept this resolution.

" Another point I would urge is the attitude taken by the Government with reference to the question of spending local funds for religious instructions in schools maintained by local bodies. I drew the attention of the Government in an interpellation to Government Orders passed by Government in which the Government has proved that the local funds cannot be used for payment of salaries to religious instructors. Now compulsory education has been introduced in some of the municipalities and amsams in Malabar. This rule of the Government, if it were to be enforced, I have no doubt, the very object of introducing compulsion will nullify. If religious instructors are not paid by the board and if religious instruction is not made an integral part of education in these schools, the Mappillas will not be in a position to take advantage of it and the penal provision of the Elementary Education Act cannot be enforced against them.

" Another question to which I would just like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister is the Arabic College in Malabar on which some memorials were submitted to the Director of Public Instruction some two or three years ago by some of the Members of the Legislative Council and some other leaders. That matter is one which does require consideration at the hands of the Government and no doubt that question must have been dealt with by the Muslim Education Committee. But, at the same time, I hope that the Government will give some special consideration to this question on the basis of that memorial and will try to solve it at a very early stage.

" Then another small matter to which I would just like to refer is this. There was previously a Special Officer called the Mappilla Education Officer in Malabar. Though he was not really a Special Officer he was only an assistant to the District Educational Officer. That post was abolished and it was understood that the Government will appoint one Muslim District Educational Officer for South Malabar. No doubt there is a very sympathetic Muslim officer at present. But I understand

19th March 1932] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

that there is some chance of his taking leave or going to a foreign country or some such thing. In case he is to go away from there the Government will consider the desirability of appointing a suitable Muslim District Educational Officer for South Malabar.

" In view of the undertaking that I have given I shall not refer to the other points."

* Mr. MAHBOOB ALI BAIG:—" Mr. President, Sir, although I find that some endeavours have been made in the past to define the policy of the Government in regard to the education of this Province, I venture to suggest that this department suffers from want of clear-cut and definite policy. No doubt, Sir, the Report of the Director of Public Instruction discusses some aspects regarding the education of this country. But, I must state, Sir, that I am not satisfied with the vague and indefinite policy in regard to the future of the department. For the last one and a half decades, or at least, one decade, Sir, everybody has been speaking of Responsible Government and everybody is thinking that democracy is going to be enthroned in this Province as in other Provinces very shortly. What we require under these circumstances, is diffusion of knowledge, mass education and permanent literacy. Having in view these three ideas, if we examine the endeavours made by this Department in the past we find due prominence has not been given to them in proportion to their importance. From the report of the Director of Public Instruction I find, Sir, that some attempt has been made to educate people generally and extend education. But the analysis made by the Director of Public Instruction with regard to the quality of education imparted to people points to the conclusion that, instead of advancing education, we are only wasting time and money as no permanent literacy was sought to be attained. And that has been said, Sir, to be one of the reasons justifying retrenchment in this department. It was said, Sir, that there were many schools which were not really doing their work. Is that the proper reason, Sir, for abolishing stipends, aids and grants to educational institutions and applying the axe of retrenchment to this department? I submit, Sir, that this is not the right way of looking at things. My friend Mr. Venkataramayya, yesterday suggested that expansion has gone on and let us all cry halt to expansion. I entirely disagree with him. If what he meant is that the expansion that is going on is not real expansion and that we must consolidate and concentrate with a view to proper expansion, I am certainly in agreement with him; but if, on the other hand, he meant that expansion has gone so far that we must discontinue I must disagree with him. Only 7 per cent of the people, Sir, are under instruction in this Presidency. Can we call that sufficient expansion so that we might call halt and concentrate? I am certain, Sir, that the answer is 'No'."

" If expansion is not going on as it ought to, the proper remedy is to expand it on right lines so that people may not relapse into illiteracy after their school career. Two points must therefore be borne in mind as far as mass education is concerned. First: mass education must expand till it reaches to at least 30 or 40 per cent of the population, and

[Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig] [19th March 1932

secondly literacy must be real literacy. It must be remembered, Sir, that unless people are in a position to intelligently choose their representatives to the legislatures, there is a danger of democracy demoralising into autocracy and getting into the hands of a wealthy few. Therefore, in these days, it is more necessary than ever before, that sufficient expansion of education must go on in such a way that real literacy may be attained.

" Then, with regard to diffusion of knowledge, my submission is that every other thing must be subordinated to mass education. When our purse allow, we can think of cultural knowledge. I know, Sir, that the life of a nation depends upon its culture. But in the present circumstances, all these things must be subordinated to what is called mass education. Even this higher education, as my Friend Mr. Shetty pointed out yesterday, must be such as to tend to increase the wealth of the country. If after providing for this we can afford money, we can indulge in what is called culture and other amenities. Not that I am against culture. Far from it. We have three universities in this Province. But what is the nature and scope of the new universities that are given to us? As far as the Annamalai University is concerned, it is all right. But in the case of the Andhra University, it is inconceivable that such a university could exist. It is neither a unitary residential university nor a federal and affiliating university. If it confines itself to a certain area and develops into what is called a residential university, I would have no quarrel with it. But it does not work towards that aim. It hampers the educational activities of other districts which are brought under its jurisdiction. Therefore it is a matter that ought to be taken into consideration by the Minister in charge of Education.

" Now, one word, with regard to Muslim education. My Muslim Friends have already pointed out that the report of the Educational Committee must be sympathetically considered by the Government and given effect to in as short a time as possible. What we and other minorities want to lay stress upon is this: that we who are in a minority claim that it is our constitutional right to be educated. The question as to what amount should be allotted towards the education of certain community should depend on the amount of illiteracy prevailing in it and not on the strength of numbers. It may be that a certain community on account of the advance already made by it may not require more money. There may be minorities, such as the Adi-Dravidas and Mussalmans, who may require more money than their numerical proportion entitles them to. It is the common good of the country or the nation that ought to be the guiding principle. It may be that a certain person in a society is not able to contribute his quota, yet he is entitled to the benefits of the society. In the same way, Sir, the education of minorities should be made a charge on the revenues of the State as well as local bodies. Last, though not least, what I wish to urge is this. As far as Muslim education is concerned, there are many places within my knowledge, for example, Masulipatam, Bezwada, Rajamundry and several other places, where there is no separate school for Muslims, nor are

19th March 1932] [Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig]

there separate sections in those schools. Language difficulty stands in the way of Muslims. For the last ten years, there has been no separate School for Muslims in Masulipatam and the Muslim children of that locality are going without education. I have already brought this to the notice of the hon. the Minister that it is absolutely necessary, that there should be a Muslim school there. As you are all aware, the mother tongue of Muslims in the Andhra Province at least is Urdu, and in the schools in that area the medium of instruction is Telugu. Hence education has failed to spread among the Muslims there. Once Masulipatam was a wealthy country inhabited by perhaps the wealthiest people amongst Musalmans. That the children of such people are going without education is a very sorry state of affairs. So, I appeal to the hon. Minister for Education to give effect to the recommendation of the Muslim Education Committee immediately, and establish separate schools for Muslims, especially, in places like Masulipatam, Bezwada, Ellore, Rajahmundry and Cocanada in the first instance. The Government may plead want of funds. But, Sir, where there is an urgent necessity for a certain thing, all other considerations must be subordinated to it. This is such a necessity. Economy could easily be secured without affecting the efficiency of administration by abolishing whole departments, such as the Board of Revenue, the Health Department, and the Public Services Department and also by discontinuing the posts of assistants and deputies to the heads of several departments. I therefore request the hon. the Minister to see that due importance is given to this department and more money is allotted to it, and I hope his personality, strength of will and the good of the country which he has at heart will help him in achieving this object. This is the most important department, because it paves the way to democracy."

* Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari:—"Sir, the cut motion before the House raises the question of policy followed by Government in the matter of education in this Presidency. As the details of the administration have been dealt with exhaustively by speaker after speaker, I now propose to address myself in a few words to the policy in general as it is adopted by the Government and as it ought to be adopted by them. Whenever the cry for the spread of education among the people is raised, it is met by the country cry of 'No Finance' from the Treasury Bench. I do concede that the question of education is essentially a question of finance. In America and in Japan, it is said that the average cost of educating a boy or girl is about Rs. 150 per year. Leaving a sufficient margin for the cheapness of life in this country and leaving also a sufficient margin for the low economic values prevailing here, we may take it, Sir, that the average cost of educating a boy or girl would be less than Rs. 30 per year. Under the present financial condition, the question of universal education must necessarily loom large before the Government. It may be that when real responsibility is introduced in the centre, when we are given control over the defence and are able to reduce the military expenditure by reducing the size of the army and by Indianizing the army, we may be able to save a few crores of rupees; it may be there may be re-allocation of the revenues

[Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari] [19th March 1932

then between the local Government and the central Government; it may be we may be able to save a few crores. But even then the question of how much this Province will be able to get and how much of it we will be able to set apart for education is a matter of speculation. What then is their position? If education is to wait until we get more revenues and if the increase in the wealth of the country is to wait until we are more educated, I am afraid, Sir, we are moving in a vicious circle. The circle must be cut somewhere some day and by somebody. I ask the question, Sir, why should not that somebody be the hon. the Minister for Education himself. I expected the hon. Minister who is reputed for his scholarship, for his imaginative and creative faculties, to give us a lead in this direction to cut this vicious circle. But what is it I find? I am disappointed at his Budget; the Budget that he has presented to us is mechanical.

"If the hon. the Minister should think that the purpose of a ·15 m. Minister on the Treasury Bench is only to administer the department and to run the machine, I am afraid I must tell him that we are rather having too costly a machine. Look at England. What was England a few centuries ago? She had no wealth. She had no education. She had only coal mines. Englishmen shrewd as they are and business-like as they are, they thought that they could produce energy out of this coal. They did produce it and it was with the surplus energy so produced they were able to make their country more educated and more powerful. What is it, Sir, we have in India? We have no rich coal mines. How then are we to get power and energy to make our country more educated and wealthy? My answer to that is, we have in India 300 millions of people and in China there are 400 millions of people. If a country which had only coal to its credit could become powerful, a country, which has men, ought to become more powerful, because I think men are more valuable than coal. The only source that remains for us to tap is the large number of men that we have. I mean the service of men. We have a number of universities; we have a number of colleges and we have a number of schools. There are thousands of young men going out of these institutions. There are thousands of young men still reading in these institutions. If the hon. the Education Minister should be pleased to turn to this direction, he will be able to see here a great source of surplus energy. If I were the Education Minister, I would call a conference of educational experts, representatives of Senates and Syndicates and members of the various institutions to make changes in the curriculum and make every student go and work in the villages teaching people for about six months or so before he is entitled to a school-leaving certificate or a degree whatever it may be. If that tremendous source of surplus energy is used by the hon. the Education Minister, I am sure he will be able to make a substantial beginning in the direction of solving this important problem of education in this Presidency irrespective of considerations of finance. We cannot simply afford to wait and sit with folded arms till Doomsday. In the new age of India—I believe it is not far off—men are to govern

19th March 1932] [Mr. C. Satyanarayana Choudari]

themselves and serve themselves. If men are to govern themselves and and if men are to serve themselves, then the power of Government must be put in the hands of those who have passed, not merely the intellectual test, but also the test of service, the spiritual and moral tests. If the hon. Minister takes my suggestion and tries to introduce the necessary changes on the lines suggested by me, or on lines similar to those suggested by me, or on lines which he will be able to think of for himself, then, I am sure he will be able to lay the real foundation for this new age I am expecting. He will be able to lay the foundation for the governance of the country by men who have themselves known how to serve. If the hon. Minister in charge of the Educational portfolio should adopt these reforms, he will go down in the memories of people for all time to come. Otherwise I am afraid, Sir, I will have to treat these Budget discussions as merely idle."

Mr. P. C. MUTHU CHETTIYAR addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

"எஜுகேஷன் விஷயம்.—இது விஷயத்தில் பட்ஜட்டில் குறைத்ததற்கு, ஹானரபிள் மினிஸ்டரவர்களுக்கு சில விஷயங்களை எடுத்துச்சொல்லவேண்டியிருக்கிறது:—

"பணக்கஷ்டத்திலும் எந்த விஷயத்தில் குறைக்கவேண்டுமோ அதை கவனியாமல், குறைக்கவேண்டுமே என்ற ஒரே எண்ணத்தில் ஆனரபிள் ஃபைனான்ஸ் மெம்பர் ஷிபார்ஸை ஒத்துக்கொண்டிருப்பது சரியல்ல. கற்றறிந்தவரானபடியால் இதை எடுத்துச்சொல்லுவதனால் அதை திருத்துவாரென்று நம்புகிறேன்.

"உயர்தர படிப்பில் இப்போது செலவிடுவது அவ்வளவு அவஸ்யமில்லையென்பதை ஏற்கனவே தெரிவித்திருக்கிறேன். எலிமெண்டரி எஜுகேஷன் ரொம்பவும் முக்யமானது. அதை எவ்வகையிலும் விர்த்திக்கவேண்டியதுபற்றி யாவரும் புகழுவார்கள். அதனால் அதை விரிவாக சொல்லவேண்டாம்.

"ஏற்கனவே கவர்ன்மெண்டாரால் நியமித்திருந்த டீச்சர்களின் கிராண்டை இதுவரை கொடுத்துவந்து, திடீரென அதை நிறுத்தி இருப்பதாகச் சொல்வது பிசகு. அதை எவ்விதத்திலும் கொடுத்தே தீரவேண்டும். ஏழை போர்டுகளில் கல்வி வரி போட்டும் இதை போர்டுகள் பெருக்கச் செய்வது நியாயமாகாது. பரீ எஜுகேஷன் பூராவும் விரும்புகிற இந்த சமயம் க்ராண்டை நிறுத்தக்கூடாது.

"கட்டட விஷயத்தில் ஸ்கூல்களோ அதற்கு கிணறுகளோ, அந்தந்த தேசத்துக்குத் தக்கவாறு கட்டடங்கள் அவஸ்யம் கட்டிமுடியவேண்டும். அதற்காக கூரைக் கட்டிடங்களை கட்டினால் க்ராண்டு கொடுப்போமென்று ஏற்கனவே சொல்லியிருக்கும் தீர்மானங்கள் எல்லா நாடுகளுக்கும் பொருந்தத் தக்கவையல்ல. மலைநாடு, சமுத்திரத் தீவுகள் இவைகளுக்குப் பொருந்தும்.

"டீச்சர்களுக்குக் குடியிருக்க வீடுகள் அவஸ்யம் தேவை. ஹானரபிள் மெம்பர் மிஸ்டர் அரசு பெண் டீச்சர்களுக்கு சொல்லியுள்ள விஷயங்கள் அவ்வளவு அவசியமல்ல. டீச்சர்களுக்கு வசதியான வீடுகள் அமைத்துக்கொடுப்பது ஸ்கூல் நன்மைக்கும் அவர்களுடைய மரியாதைக்கும் உத்தமமாக இருக்கும் ஆகையால் அவைகளுக்கும் கிராண்டு தரவேண்டும்.

"லைப்ரரிகளுக்கும் க்ராண்டு கொடுக்கவேண்டியது அவஸ்யம். கிராமாந்தரங்களில் பெரும்பாலோர் ஏழைக்குழந்தைகளாக இருப்பதனாலும் அவர்களுடைய தேகஸ்திதி பார்வைக்குக் குறைவாயிருப்பதையும் பார்க்கும்போது வருந்தத்தக்கதாக இருக்கிறது. அவர்களுக்கு மாதாந்தரம் மெடிகல் உதவி அவஸ்யம் வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஏழைக் குழந்தைகளுக்கு வருஷத்தில் இரண்டு மூன்று சந்தர்ப்பம் துணி கொடுக்கவேண்டியதும் அவஸ்யமாக இருக்கிறது.

" சைல்ட் வெல்பேர் (child welfare) ஏதோ பிரயோஜனமாக இருப்பதாக நீங்கள் நினைப்பீர்களானுல் அது முழுதும் பிசகு. அதை அடியோடு ஒழித்து விடவேண்டும்.

" உயர்தரப் படிப்பு காலேஜில் மோட்டாரில் வந்து படிக்கும் குழந்தைகளைப் பார்ப்பதற்கு மெடிகல் உதவி செய்வதில் அவ்வளவு அவஸ்யமில்லை. அதில் ஒருவித பிரயோஜனமிருப்பதாக வாஸ்த்தவத்தில் இல்லை.

" சில ஸ்கூல்களில் ஸ்கௌட் டீச்சர்களுக்கும், சங்கீதம் சமஸ்க்ருதம் தெறிந்த டீச்சர்களையும் நியமிப்பதற்கு அந்தந்த இடத்திற்குத்தக்கபடி அனுமதி கொடுப்பதில்லை. அவ்வித வழக்கத்தை மாற்றிவிடவேண்டும்.

" நைட் ஸ்கூல் உதவி தேவையில்லை.

" மதுரையில் செட்டிப்பெண்களுக்கென்று ஒரு பாடசாலை ஏற்படுத்த அதிகாரிகள் விரும்பியும் அந்நகரததலைவர் சொந்த அபிப்பிராயமாக அதை இடங்கொடாது காலங்கழித்தனர்.

" எத்தனையோ உத்யோகங்களுக்கு நாமினலாக குறைத்ததுபோல் இதிலும் குறைத்திருக்கவேண்டும். பெருந்தகையாகிய நாற்பது லக்ஷத்தைக் குறைக்க மினிஸ்டரவர்கள் தவறி இருக்கிருர்கள். "

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Sir, I
-30 am indeed very thankful to the House for the very friendly spirit in
.m. which they carried on throughout the discussions on this Demand. My hon. Friend from Madura, Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar, started the discussion and he explained that it was not with a view to censure or criticize what has been done, that he started this debate, but it was with a view to place before me suggestions which, if carried out, would enable me to escape unscathed at this time next year and if not carried out will lead to serious consequences. I can only tell my hon. Friend that such suggestions as have been made on the floor of this House are helpful to me in the administration of this department—such suggestions I am glad to see have been numerous—I shall try my very best to carry into effect to the utmost of my power.

" Last year about this time I was addressing the House in reply to the discussion on this Demand in a more hopeful spirit and under conditions of less serious depression than we have at present. I thought within my mind then that it would be possible for me in the course of the coming year to carry out a programme of legislation which would enable the Government to expand particularly elementary education on healthy and sound lines. I laid before this House my intentions in the matter and I was glad to note then that they met with the approval of this House, but I have to-day to come before this House with the sad tale that the events which took place within the year—the increase in economic depression and financial stringency—have made it absolutely impossible for me to undertake any measures of reform with regard to elementary education. In addressing the House to-day in answer to the criticisms made here, I am doing so under the gloom of this serious financial stringency. If I take credit for anything at all, it must be for having saved this or that useful institution or this or that useful educational activity from coming under the retrenchment axe. This dark cloud, like all clouds, has got at least one silver lining and I am at the outset in the happy position of announcing to the House that the Government have decided to retain those two ancient institutions—the

19th March 1932] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

Rajahmundry College and the Brennen College. I know the intensity of feeling on this subject and I remember also the proceedings of this Council when a resolution on this subject was discussed a few months ago and these have naturally produced a great impression and the Government have only the other day decided that these colleges should be retained. But I must at the same time make it perfectly clear to hon. Members that at least for some years to come it will be impossible for the Government to undertake any improvement in the accommodation in both these colleges. The accommodation both in the Rajahmundry College and in the Brennen College has been reported to be inadequate and they must carry on for several years to come with this inadequate accommodation. So if in the next year or in the next few years, the Government are not able to allot any funds for the improvement of accommodation, I hope the hon. Members of this House will not take either me or, if I am not in office, my successor to task for not having found the money for that purpose.

"Having said that, I will now turn to the sad portion of my speech as I said before. With regard to elementary education I have not been able to achieve anything I hoped to do last year. My hon. Friend, Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar, pointed out that there has been an expansion of some sort—expansion in quantity without a corresponding improvement in the quality of the education imparted. Thanks to the vigorous policy initiated by my hon. Friend, Sir Patro, when he was Minister for Education, there has been immense expansion in this direction and not only on the floor of this House but otherwise also I have always had the benefit of his views on questions relating to Education. Let me now say with all the emphasis that I can command that on this side of the House it was never the intention of anybody to disown or disclaim him as one of the recognized leaders of our Party or of any of his views. I am saying that in all seriousness because certain interjections made in this House have been wantonly or otherwise interpreted to mean that there was such a disclaimer on the part of the members of the party to which my hon. Friend, Sir A. P. Patro, has the honour to belong. Nothing was farther from the path or the intention of the Members on this side of the House than any such disclaimer.

"With regard to Elementary Education, in pursuance of the policy he laid down there has been a great deal of expansion, but in the pursuit of his policy in subsequent years there has been perhaps not sufficient circumspection. The expansion has not been all-sided; the expansion has been only in numbers and not in the quality of education. I laid particular stress on this aspect of this matter even in my speech on the occasion of the last Budget and several hon. Members of this House have now laid particular emphasis on this aspect of Elementary Education. In concluding my speech I made a very earnest appeal to hon. Members of this House and to all those who are interested in the educational advancement of the Province to help the Government to implement the proposals which were contained in the excellent report of Mr. Champion. I am sorry to say that there is no evidence of such

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [19th March 1932

co-operation. From all those sources from which hostility was encountered similar hostility is still coming. I am sure unless we take a bold step forward and put into effect the proposals contained in that report, it would be very difficult to advance Elementary Education on healthy and proper lines. The Retrenchment Committee has gone into this question and while it was urged on one side that when it was conceded that a great deal of the money now spent on Elementary Education was a waste, the remedy for it was to stop the present allotments, on the other hand it was suggested that it was unwise to stop the expenditure on this subject and the proper course was to divert the money spent on Elementary Education into proper channels. The Retrenchment Committee, consisting as it did of several presidents of district boards who had not only great experience in administering schools but who had also a very great interest in the advancement of Elementary Education, decided to adopt the latter and wiser course, namely, that the expenditure should not be curtailed but should be used on right lines. Government have already moved in the matter and I express once again the hope that with the co-operation of the public and all those who are interested in the educational advancement of the country, it would be possible to do something on the lines which the Retrenchment Committee and the Champion Report have laid down.

" Mr. President, it was said by certain hon. Members that about Rs. 50 lakhs has been cut in the provision for the expenditure on elementary schools. It is a mistake to suppose so. The hon. Member from Nellore, Mr. Yahya Ali Sahib, has already pointed it out. Rs. 50,00,000 is the decrease in the whole provision for Education; a good portion of it comes under universities and that is because of the fact in the year 1930–31 a large building grant was given to the Andhra University. You will find from the figures that the total expenditure on Education according to the accounts of 1930–31 was Rs. 286·40 lakhs. We are now providing Rs. 231·40 lakhs even under the present conditions of finance. Under Elementary Education the provision is Rs. 137·25 lakhs, while according to the accounts of 1930–31 the expenditure under Elementary Education was 142·24 lakhs. Thus, there is a decrease of only Rs. 5,00,000 out of a total of over 142 lakhs. The decrease is not as much as it has been represented to be, but I do not certainly say that there should be any decrease at all under Elementary Education. Rs. 5 lakhs is certainly a most deplorable decrease and I would, if it was in my power, not cut the allotment even by Rs. 5. But I regret as much as any hon. Member of this House that it has become necessary to reduce this provision. Hon. Members would note that the Budget of 1931–32 provided for increased expenditure under Education, particularly under Elementary Education. There was an increased provision under Primary Education of Rs. 3·11 lakhs in the Budget, but it has not been possible to find the money and we had to reduce the total provision of 145 lakhs by about Rs. 10 lakhs during the current year. When financial conditions improve, I will certainly make earnest endeavours to restore all that has been cut from Elementary Education.

19th March 1932] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

"My hon. Friend Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar next referred to Secondary Education. He and some other hon. Members also said that the special teaching grant of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs that was given to secondary schools should not have been cut down. It was not my idea to stop this grant at all. Even before the Retrenchment Committee was constituted, or at least before they began to examine the expenditure on Education, an order had been issued merging this grant of Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in the ordinary teaching grant, so that managements without any difficulty can get this one and a half lakhs for the purpose of maintaining their schools. Immediately after this Government Order was issued, the retrenchment proposals came in and the Retrenchment Committee said that this grant of Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs should be stopped as a measure of retrenchment. It was stopped during the current year so as to effect immediate economies for the purpose of balancing the Budget. Final orders have not yet been passed yet as regards the fate of these Rs. $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. I cannot at the same time hold out any hope that this special teaching grant either in its original form or as an accretion to the general teaching grant after its absorption in it—I cannot hold out much hope that this would be restored. I can only assure the hon. House, that, if financial conditions improve, I shall certainly do my best to restore this amount.

"My hon. Friend. Mr. Venkatarama Ayyar, also raised the question 12
that the system of grants at present followed was defective. The pre- P.M.
sent system with regard to private managements is the payment of half the net cost. Of course, with regard to local bodies my hon. Friend will perhaps remember that this net cost system has been given up and they are paid only lump sum grants—a system against which local bodies are protesting. With regard to private managements, my hon. Friend wants us to give up the system of half the net cost and substitute in its place a system under which more efficient and more popular schools will get greater grants than the less efficient and less attractive schools.

"This is a proposition which perhaps it would not be proper for me to accept at any rate now. In areas which are backward in education and where the desire for education is not stimulated to the same extent as in more advanced areas, I think it would be necessary to still retain the net cost system. However, I may say for the information of the hon. Member that the system of grants to private managements of Secondary Schools, has been very much liberalized during the last year and during the previous year. Many of these more efficient schools are levying fees at present at rates above the standard ones. The previous rule was that the income realized by the managements as a result of these enhanced rates did not go to their benefit. It was taken into account for the purpose of arriving at the net cost. Now the rules have been revised so as to give the entire benefit of these increased rates to the managements. Net cost is calculated without taking into account the proceeds of these increased rates of fees; a further concession has been granted to them that, when the profits are carried over to the next year,

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [19th March 1932

these will not be taken into account at all and these will be regarded as contributions by the managements. The previous practice was to deduct the profits out of the net cost; that practice also has been stopped; now they get the full benefit of the profits which they realize on account of these increased rates of fees. This liberalization has been brought into effect only quite recently and, when experience shows that this is not enough, it will certainly be time then to consider what further steps are to be taken. But there is the obvious objection to introduce a uniform system of grants which will not take into account the net cost of the schools, because that will merely handicap schools in the less advanced areas and where education is really backward. My hon. Friend says that special loans and special aids ought to be given. I would only remind him that this is not the time to think of such special financial help.

"There are very many matters to which reference has been made. I am only sorry that it is not possible for me, within the limited time, to refer to them all. I must perhaps refer to one point; certain sweeping and slanderous statements not becoming the dignity of this House were made on the floor of this House. I would perhaps have preferred to leave these statements alone and treat them in the manner they deserved. But some hon. Members of this House have treated these statements with undue respect by beginning, in all seriousness, to reply to them. I hope most earnestly, Sir, and I implore all the hon. Members of this House not to indulge in statements of this character. I am glad that this has aroused most rightly the indignation of this House and I hope that it will be a lesson to Members who indulge in such irresponsible statements to desist from such a practice in future."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—"In view of the satisfactory answer given by the hon. the Minister, I withdraw the motion."

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The question is—'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,73,62,200 *under Demand XVII—Education—Transferred*'."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XVIII—EDUCATION—RESERVED (EUROPEAN).

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rupees* 7,05,200 *under Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved*'."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 7,05,200 *for Education—Reserved, be reduced by Rs.* 100'."

"My object is to discuss the policy relating to this matter. The hon. the Home Member may be feeling that we are concentrating all

19th March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

our fire against the administration of the Police Department and neglecting the other important subjects under his charge. This Demand was passed without any discussion at the time of the Budget last year. I wish to know from him the policy underlying the setting up of separate schools for Europeans. The Government, I believe, have now adopted the policy of having common schools for all castes and creeds in this Province; they want to encourage co-education; they want to consolidate the elementary schools. Local bodies and aided schools have been asked to give admission to children of all castes and communities including Adi-Dravidas without any distinction. The system of separate education for Europeans seems to have been responsible for creating a sort of untouchability between Europeans and Indians. Sir Henry Gidney who leads the Anglo-Indian community has recently asked for a radical change in the policy regarding European Education. He has said that it is the chief factor that contributes to create in the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European community an inferiority complex towards Europeans and a superiority complex towards Indians. I want to know, Sir, the necessity for separate schools for Europeans. Europeans and Indians who have to live in this land as common citizens, must come together in the schools, must rub shoulders with each other and understand each other's point of view. They must cultivate a better feeling of friendship and for this purpose it will no doubt be desirable that they should admit as large a number of Indians as possible in these European schools and that they also should come in larger numbers to public schools.

"Sir Henry Gidney has also suggested the discontinuance of the Cambridge examinations. This Cambridge examination necessitates the employment of Europeans on high salaries and it makes education comparatively more costly to the community; it also prevents them from entering Indian Universities through the portals of their own institutions.

"Another matter, Sir, that has often been complained about is the high average cost of education in these European schools. There is also the feeling that the Government are unusually liberal in giving grants to European institutions, equipment and building grants and teaching grants also. I understand that the recommendation made by the Retrenchment Committee for a reduction of Rs. 25,000 or so in boarding grants to Secondary Schools, has been rejected by the Government. I wish to know the reasons for this rejection. I would like to have from the hon. the Home Member, Sir, a statement of the policy in relation to the two points which I have mentioned."

* Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—" Sir, whatever may have been the object of the policy of having separate schools for Europeans in the past, I think it is high time that that policy is gradually at any rate dropped. The barrier between Indians and Europeans is fast breaking down and naturally the House would expect that this policy also of having separate schools for Europeans should go. But I also feel that it may not be possible, all of a sudden, to abolish all the schools for Europeans. Therefore, I would suggest that it can be proceeded with gradually. There are certain districts or localities in which

[Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar] [19th March 1932

separate schools for Europeans may be necessary, for instance, the Nilgiris. But, in other places like Trichinopoly, it may not be quite necessary. In such places at any rate, children of both the races may be taught in the same schools. We are particularly handicapped in passing any criticisms on this Demand since we do not have the report of the Retrenchment Committee. We had some information from the hon. Speaker that preceded me. Even in the Administration Report there is no detailed information. I would therefore ask the hon. the Home Member to give us an idea of the retrenchment that has been effected in this department.

"I can also suggest one way of effecting retrenchment in this department in respect of a separate agency for inspection. Can inspection not be done by the same inspecting agency that inspects other schools? I do not see any necessity for having a separate agency even for inspection. The inspecting agency at least in the higher grade is well qualified and in certain cases they are Europeans. That being so, there is no justification at all for having a separate inspecting agency for European schools.

"My own opinion is that, under this Demand, a couple of lakhs can be easily saved without hindrance being caused to the progress of European Education. I would suggest to the hon. the Chief Minister that he should consult the hon. the Home Member and see whether it is not possible to save a sum of Rs. 2 or 3 lakhs under this Demand and make it available for the provincialization of the Madras Hindu Religious Endowments Board. I think that it is quite possible to carry out retrenchment in this particular Demand without causing much distress to the people affected. Therefore I would request the hon. the Home Member to give us rather a detailed account of the way in which retrenchment has been proposed and whether there are any further proposals to effect more retrenchment under this head."

* Mr. F. E. JAMES :—"Mr. President, Sir, this question of the grant for European Education year after year gives rise to the same misconceptions in regard to the basis for the grant and also in regard to the basis for what is known as 'European Education'. First of all, I would like to point out that although these schools are called European schools, in the last Administration Report of the Education Department, you will find that about 12 per cent of the pupils in those schools are Indians. In the second place, with reference to the remarks that have been made by Mr. Shetty as to the cost of these schools, I would remind him that in the same Administration Report, we find the following figures : Of the total expenditure on secondary schools, that is to say, Indian secondary schools, 34 per cent is contributed by public funds, 51 per cent by fees and 14 per cent from other sources ; whereas, of the total expenditure on European Education, 33 per cent is found from public funds, 26 per cent from fees and 40 per cent from other sources. So that, proportionately to the total cost, there is very little difference between the percentage which falls upon the public funds in European schools and in Indian schools. Sir, I do agree that on

19th March 1932] [Mr. F. E. James]

this question of European Education it is desirable to look at it from an entirely different point of view. I do not for one moment support the proposal that a particular system of education should be the special prerogative of one community. I would point out to the House that the type of education which is given in European schools is not education which is based upon any racial consideration, but rather upon cultural considerations. And I want to put forward the suggestion to the Home Member and also to the Minister for Education that rather than these schools should be diminished, they should be increased. It must be remembered that the basis of education in these schools is character training, and as far as possible, they follow the lines of the English public school. I should be very loath to suggest that schools of that character should be reduced in number or reduced in strength. I believe that in a really national system of education, you should have your vernacular schools in which English is taught merely as a subject, but in which the education is in the vernacular; and in what we might call English schools in which teaching would be done in English (that could be the medium of instruction and knowledge) as far as possible, those characteristics which are well-known in English schools of that character should be taught in this country. While English would be the language in those schools, the curriculum would be such as would lead up to both the Indian and the English Universities. As I have said before, the culture and character training in those schools should be such as are found in English schools of the same kind. Now, Sir, if that could be adopted as a general policy, your present European schools would naturally form the nucleus of this group, and I desire to suggest that additional schools on these lines should be opened as far as funds would permit, designed chiefly for Indian pupils, though no racial considerations should govern the admission to such schools. But, obviously, in the schools that at present exist, in what are known as European schools, there must be a preponderance of pupils from the communities for which they were originally intended because of considerations of space. But I would meet the arguments of my friend who criticized the provision for such schools by saying 'do not diminish the number, do not cripple them, do not make them less effective.' I believe we should want more schools of that kind, not only for European pupils but for Indian pupils as well. I look forward to the time when this kind of education will not be called 'European Education' because the word 'European' has got a racial tinge about it, but will be called, if you like, 'English education', or, as the Dutch Government calls it in the Dutch East Indies, 'western education,' where the basis of education is both cultural and character building, where the teaching is through the medium of the English language. Of course one must admit that financial considerations may make any large extension of this method of education difficult for the moment, because by the very nature of things, such schools are bound to be more expensive than the ordinary vernacular schools. They have to have more highly qualified teachers, if you want to have English really as the medium of instruction, if you are really going to have good English teachers. I do feel that the way out of this difficulty which

[Mr. F. E. James] [19th March 1932

I believe the Members of this House feel every year in regard to European education, is to throw open this system of cultural education which has hitherto been claimed rather as the prerogative of one particular community largely on the ground of race, to throw open this system to the whole country, to extend it and to make it part of the national education of the country in the fullest possible way. I am convinced, Mr. President, that along that line is the most hopeful method of approach from every point of view. I believe that the educational authorities should come together and devise some kind of policy. With that as the basis, all criticisms would disappear. The schools would no longer be the prerogative of one community, they would be linked to the national system of education. The question of finance would be understood by those who understand that these schools must of necessity be more costly than the ordinary vernacular schools. That would be one of the most efficient ways—first by insisting that the real basis of all education after all is the training of character, and secondly by bringing into the national field of education that branch which at present is regarded with some suspicion by the Legislatures of the country, but which is cherished so deeply by the members of the communities for which it exists."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Sir, there is a good deal in what the Member for the United Planters Association has said, but my friend has not referred to the actual working of these European institutions. True, Sir, in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, we have the distinction of English Middle schools, English High schools and vernacular middle schools and vernacular high schools. In this Province, very gradually, that distinction is being brought into existence though not yet quite so well-marked; but all the same, Sir, my friend said that they are not based on any racial considerations. Probably they are not based on racial considerations; but as facts are, there are many schools which do not admit Indian boys and Indian girls as freely as they ought to. In fact, there are some schools which have closed their doors against Indians as a community and there are other schools in which if at all they admit some Indian boys and girls, they admit them on such exorbitant fees as are almost prohibitive. That is why my hon. Friend for the Planters Association has been able to say that there is only 12 per cent of pupils in the schools belonging to the Indian community as such. Sir, if these schools are not to be worked as though they are meant for a particular race or a particular community, then naturally the proportion of Indians in those schools should be much greater. In fact, there is a large desire on the part of a considerable section of the Indian community that they should send their girls and boys to that type of education and to the type of character training which are given in these schools. There is no question about that; there is the desire to do so. But the cost of sending these boys there is so high, so exorbitant, that most of the people in spite of their best desires, could not afford it. What we want is that this high charging of fees—in spite of the fact that they are receiving handsome grants or aid from the Government—this prohibitive fees for non-Europeans and non-Anglo-Indians should stop; because it is certainly not congenial to the

development of harmonious relationship between the two communities. Then, Sir, even in regard to the admission of Indians into these European institutions, they merely admit them in order to fill up certain of the vacancies that arise from year to year. If those vacancies are filled up, although there may be scope for more admissions, still they deny admissions. Supposing they have to take in 40 or 50 European boys, if they have already got 25 or 30 European boys, they fill up only to the extent to which there are vacancies; and always preference is given not to the Indian but to the Anglo-Indian or European pupils. That, Sir, is practically working on racial considerations. It is a good suggestion and a constructive suggestion that my hon. Friend has made that in the national system of education there should not be this system of education on communal lines or on racial lines; that, I think, Sir, is a suggestion worth being taken up by the Education department. But until then, I want the Home Member to see that the practical working of these institutions is altered so as to allow greater scope and greater opportunities for Indian pupils, to seek admission and to get the type of education and the type of character training which are given in those institutions. We do not want, Sir, that racial considerations should be brought into existence or communal considerations discussed when we are dealing with this grant; but all the same the fact exists there. I would ask the hon. Member for the United Planters Association to influence his community so as to get rid of the prohibition that exists in certain schools against the admission of Indian boys and later on to make it possible for each and every Indian pupil who wants to get admission into those schools to get in . . ."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—" Might I interrupt, Sir, and make an explanation? There is no prohibition against the entry of persons on racial grounds. The real difficulty is the question of space. Where a school has only accommodation for the members of one community, it is very difficult obviously to find additional accommodation for others. That is the practical difficulty."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" That is only one aspect of the difficulty, but I know as a matter of fact they are levying very high fees, sometimes even five or ten times the fees levied from the Anglo-Indian or European students, in the case of Indian students who seek admission into such schools even though there is accommodation. I do not see any reason why when the European schools are maintained by means of grants-in-aid and paid out of public revenues, they should still levy this excess charge for Indian students. If the idea of maintaining these schools is merely for the type of education, training of character and all that, why should this exorbitant fee be levied? There are some schools—probably my hon. Friend Mr. James is not aware of such schools—and I remember if I am not very wrong, for instance, the Stanes School in Coimbatore has completely closed its doors against Indians—where this state of things exists. Why not such schools be opened for all classes and communities so long as the system of education continues to be what it is? It is this sort of thing that gives rise to the

suspicion that these institutions are maintained as a close preserve for one or two communities alone. In fact, so far as the Muslims are concerned, although certain schools are maintained for Muslims alone, there is no objection to the students of other communities who want to get admission into those schools and they can be freely admitted. For instance, Sir, the Muhammadan College in Madras, is open for Muslims, non-Muslims, Anglo-Indians and Europeans if they only seek admission there. I also understand there are one or two non-Muslim students in that college. That being the case, why not make the European schools also work on the same lines as the Muhammadan college. That is what we want and if the hon. Member representing the Planters' Association will only take into consideration the existing facts—I have also given him the case of the Stanes School—and try to remedy them, it will go a long way and probably next year when this Demand comes before us, we may have to say nothing against this type of English education and about the working of these schools."

* Mr. M. Devadasan:—" Mr. President, Sir, in rising to speak on this motion, I want to make one or two observations. In the course of discussion of the last Demand my Muhammadan Friends were more vehement than others, claiming separate schools and more funds for them. That being the case, I do not find any reason why another minority community, like the Europeans, should not enjoy similar concessions from the Government. I am constrained to say this in the interests of the minority communities including the Muhammadans. In the Report of the Administration of the Madras Presidency which has just been placed in the hands of hon. Members, I find the following under European education: 'Two European primary schools were closed during the year, leaving a total of 82 European schools of all grades. There was a slight increase in the strength from 10,824 to 10,834 pupils, 1,564 of these being Indians.' This shows that in the schools intended for Europeans, Indians also are admitted; so, these schools are not entirely sectarian as they are represented to be.

" In this connexion, I want to make another observation and that is this: the minority communities view with suspicion the action of the majority communities. Recently in the taluk board of Saidapet, compulsory education was introduced, but the introduction of compulsory education tended to have a different effect from which compulsory education was intended to have. Here, Sir, I may be permitted to read a portion of the report on Public Instruction in the Madras Presidency for the year 1930–31. It is stated there that 'in several places in Saidapet taluk the admission of Adi-Dravida pupils into the caste schools resulted in a complete and successful economic boycott of the Adi-Dravida population; and compulsion only resulted in depriving the Adi-Dravida parent of his means of livelihood and even in the closure of shops to his custom.'

" Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar, said that there should be no distinction of caste or creed and that any school

19th *March* 1932] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

run by the Government should be open to all. I do not deny that statement; but if the members of the majority communities treat the members of the depressed classes in this way, i.e., to the extent of depriving the depressed classes of their means of livelihood and even to the extent of denying them the ordinary necessaries of life, I do not see any reason why there should be no protection for the Europeans who form also a minority."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, it was said by my hon. Friend, Mr. James, that the European schools are not really intended for Europeans, but they are really intended to sustain European culture and to maintain a higher standard of education than what is prevalent in any other ordinary institution in this country and so it is in the interests of the cultural development of the country not only that the number of these European schools should not be reduced, but that an attempt should be made to increase their number consistent with the financial capacity of the Province. I do not know, Sir, how far he is correct in his statement that these institutions are not really intended for the Europeans. May be that in theory they are open to non-Europeans also to get entry into such schools, but at the same time, as was pointed out by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed, very often it is very difficult for Indian students to get admission into these institutions. As a test question about the correctness of this statement of Mr. James, I would ask him whether, when there are a large number of European students seeking admission into such an institution and there are also Indian students many times that number seeking admission into the same institution, the authorities would give preference to the Indians or to the Europeans? I am sure they will give first preference to European students and in the words of Mr. James, it is only if space permits that admission can be given to Indian pupils. If that is the state of affairs, it is not at all quite correct to say that these institutions are intended only for the development of European culture and are not intended exclusively for Europeans. (Mr. F. E. James: 'That is not the statement I have made, Sir.') Now, the first question I would ask is this. If the idea is to develop culture by means of these schools, I want to know whether the cultural education that is imparted in those schools is different from that which is attempted to be developed in ordinary schools. I do not know whether the culture that is sought to be developed in these institutions is different from that of other schools except that instruction is given in the English language in institutions maintained solely for Europeans instead of in the vernacular. What I understand from persons who have sent their children for education to these schools is, no doubt they do gain some advantage by the instruction they get in the English language instead of in the vernacular, but in respect of certain other subjects which are also quite necessary for the development of culture, as for instance in mathematics, the instruction given in these European schools is extremely poor and the products of these European schools are rather bankrupt in mathematics. So these schools have got their own defects

[B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur] [19th March 1932

also and I do not think it can very well be said that institutions like European schools represent peculiar or special culture as distinct from the culture that is developed in ordinary schools.

" Apart from the fact that instruction in these schools is imparted in the English language and that the pupils who come out of these schools have better facilities for using the English language, the only difference between these two sets of institutions is that the English schools are costly. I do not therefore think that it is justifiable on the part of the Government to spend large sums of money on institutions of this character.

" Sir, it has been said that these schools are run on the model of public schools in England. This question of starting schools in India on the lines of the public schools in England, was under consideration by the Government of India recently, but I think, after mature consideration this idea has at last been given up on two grounds. First of all, it is too costly for the people of this country. Secondly, if there should be such a school, it would be taken advantage of only by the aristocracy and not by the common people. Now, Sir, under such circumstances, I do not think that it is justifiable on the part of the Government to spend such large sums of money on institutions like European schools on the mere ground that they represent—as Mr. James pointed out—a peculiar culture or that they are run on the lines of public schools in England.

" The point was raised by my hon. Friend, Mr. Devadasan, that it does not lie in the mouths of the Muslims, who cry for separate schools for themselves, to condemn the continuance of these European schools. I do certainly belong to that category of people—the Muslims—who believe in separate schools for Muslims at the present stage. Here, I may say that these Muslim schools are certainly not run on the lines of the European schools, nor can it be said that the cost per head in a Muslim school is the same as the cost per head in an European institution. So far as the Muslims are concerned—and it has been well understood—they have been very peculiarly backward in the matter of education and it is to encourage them to take advantage of Western education that these special schools for Muslims have been started and it is also admitted that Muslims have got a peculiar culture of their own as distinct from the culture of the Europeans. It is the European culture or Western culture that is being sought to be developed in these European institutions and not a different kind of culture, the only difference being that European schools are run on more costly lines than the ordinary schools where the same culture is sought to be developed.

" Then, Sir, so far as the Muslims are concerned, as I have already stated, they have a distinct culture of their own entirely different from the Western culture and unless opportunities are given to them to develop their culture, it would not be possible for them to take advantage of Western education that is imparted in this country. It is only with that idea that separate institutions for Muslims have been started.

19th March 1932] [B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur]

" Now, Sir, there are only one or two remarks that I have to offer. 1.
It was pointed out by Mr. Shetty that even the Leader of the Anglo- p.
Indian community itself wanted to give up this kind of costly institution because it was found that even though there may be number of Europeans who could afford to send their children to these costly institutions the Anglo-Indian community was under a great disability because they could ill-afford to send their children to these costly schools and so he appears to have wanted to do away with these institutions and nationalize education and not claim any separate institutions. I really object to the continuance of these schools on grounds of their costly nature. If only a calculation is made as to the number of students who are taking advantage of these institutions and if a calculation is made as to the cost per head of the students that attend these schools, it will be found that it is many times more than the amount that has to be paid by a student at an ordinary institution. I would just ask the hon. the Home Member to tell the House how far the axe of retrenchment has been applied to this department especially in view of the fact that the retrenchment axe fell heavily on the Transferred Half of Education even to the detriment of elementary education and to other necessary activities of the department."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support the cut motion under discussion in order to indicate that we on this side of the House are also equally vehement in bringing to the notice of the Government, our views in the matter of the continuance of sectional schools and that we have our own views on the matter just as on the Police which is under the control of the hon. Member also. The Muhammadans have separate schools and so also the Europeans and Anglo-Indians. What I want to inform the hon. Member is that I think the sectional schools ought to go. I suppose hon. Members opposite who pose themselves as Nationalists should be the first persons to welcome the training of students on a national basis and do away with all sectional schools—whether they are maintained on cultural or linguistic or any other considerations. I feel very strongly that the time has now come for the sectional schools to be abolished. There are several strong reasons for it. So far as the Europeans and the Anglo-Indians are concerned, I may be permitted to say that they are labouring under very great disadvantages. By the peculiar nature of the education that is being given to them, they are not able to communicate with the people of the country with whom they have to move. Be it Hindustani, Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese or Malayalam, they are not able to converse freely and communicate their views to others. It is appalling that a community which has its living in this country should not be coached in the language of the country by reason of their having separate schools. I think, Sir, that it will be in their interests if they give up their sectional schools and pick up the language of the

country. This applies also to every sectional school. The very important and dominant reason why I want them to give up their sectional institutions is that there is no use in each of us remaining a separate entity; we should all be moving together and we should not be perpetuating and accentuating the differences that obtain at present between the various communities.

"Sir, as far as this particular motion is concerned, it is not my intention to vote the Demand down but to bring to the notice of the Government our views in the matter and to indicate our desire that, as time goes on, I hope before the next Budget meeting, it will be possible for the hon. Member to do away with these sectional schools. The sooner it is done the better. But in the meantime as the schools are to be continued, I would like the hon. the Home Member to bear in mind two things. The first is that admission to these schools should be thrown open to students of other communities also, it must not be restricted to people belonging to that particular section."

Mr. M. Devadasan:—"May I draw the attention of the hon. the President that there is no quorum for the meeting?" *(The bell was rung and the necessary quorum formed.)*

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"The second thing that I want the hon. the Home Member to kindly bear in mind is that there ought not to be any difference in the matter of fees between the European schools and the ordinary institutions. The fees must be uniform. I hope the hon. Member will kindly see that there is a uniform rate of fees. Though I wish that these sectional schools ought to be abolished, in so far as and as long as they function, irrespective of accommodation or other considerations, I feel that admissions must be thrown open to all communities and that in the scale of fees there should not be any difference. But I repeat, Sir, once more that the sooner the Government see their way to abolish these sectional schools the better it will be for the State and the nation."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Mr. President, Sir, I should first of all begin by saying that we should allow all the communities and all races who want to develop their own culture to do so without any restriction. There is no use our asking one community which desires to preserve it own culture to go to a common institution. Therefore, we should not oppose the Europeans having their own schools and trying to develop their own culture, because it is necessary that we must have the development of all cultures so that India can boast of having different cultures developed in the country. You know, Sir, that fundamental rights have been accorded to all by the Congress and even by the Nehru Report. We find there that opportunities will be given to all communities to develop their own cultures and certainly it is necessary that we should give the opportunity to Europeans to develop their culture also in their own way. I may say, Sir, that the kind of education that is accorded to the Indians has not been of a character which would allow all communities which go to constitute the Indian nation to develop

19th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

hon. Members here that the Muslim education has not gone sufficiently enough on account of the fact that a certain aspect of Muslim education has not been given sufficient attention. They have been asking for religious instruction being made part and parcel of the system of education. On the same analogy, I do not know why the Europeans should not develop their own culture in their own way. But the question arises whether my European friends are going to make India their home. If they want to make India their home, certainly, they have as much right to the kind of education that should be given to them as any other community. We shall wait and see if the Europeans are going to make India their home or whether they will come here for purposes of business, pay and so forth and get away from this country the moment their business is over here. If they are only a passing population, I am afraid they do not have as much justification for claiming separate recognition as they would have if they made India their home.

"The other point I wish to emphasize is that I do not understand why we should try to get into European schools. Why should we not develop our own education ourselves? Let them have their own education themselves. I do not understand why we should ask for reservation of seats. If our education is not of the same character as obtains in the European schools, it is necessary that we should improve it instead of asking for some seats in their schools. Sir, I believe, therefore, that the Europeans may be left alone so that they may have their own education and develop their own culture."

* Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig:—"Mr. President, Sir, I had no idea of taking part in this debate but for the fact that I am afraid the Council is likely to misunderstand certain statements made by some Muslim Members on the other side, as the opinion of the Muslims of this Council. For my part, I see no reason for objecting to the European community, a minority community, having separate schools. If I understood my hon. Friends aright, they laid emphasis wrongly on this part of their arguments, namely, that there is no justification for their separate schools. But what they really wanted to say was that, when there are separate schools for Europeans, entrance to non-Europeans should not be prohibited. If that is their contention, I agree with them. But one thing must be borne in mind. These are schools separately established for the European community—I should say primarily for them. It is only after that community has been provided for and if there is any room, other communities will be admitted. That is no justification why entrance to other communities must be made prohibitive. I am at one with my friends on that point. But I disagree with them in saying that the cost of education in their case is abnormally high, and therefore on that account, the cost must be cut down.

"As I said, Sir, even though a community may be small there may 2-
be certain special considerations which necessitate and deserve the grant- p.
ing of funds to them irrespective of the fact whether they are numerically small or great. It is the interests of the community as a whole that ought to be considered and it is not their arithmetical proportion that ought to be considered in granting funds for education.

[Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig] [19th March 1932

" Adverting to the question of their status in this country, I wish to say a few words. The European community has more than once made it very clear that they are living in India as a part of the Indian nationality. And they have expressed in unequivocal terms that they have got their interest in India and so they should have equal rights with Indians. When they have made that very clear, there is no room for us or any other person to say that they are mere sojourners in this country. Having been in India for about 200 years as our rulers, having been in India for more than 400 or 500 years as merchants and having made India their home, it is but right that their claim should be duly considered. Here I may point out that just as the Muslims have their own culture as distinct and separate from others, the Europeans also have their own culture; and so it is not correct to say that since they have no culture of their own, they do not deserve separate institutions. Therefore, Sir, I beg to differ from my Muslim friends on the other side that the Europeans do not deserve separate institutions and do not deserve more contributions from the public funds according to their peculiar circumstances. But if they say that they object to the European schools making the entrance of non-European pupils prohibitive I agree with them, and I appeal to my European friends and the Government to see that the admission to European schools of non-European pupils is not made prohibitive. I claim some experience in this matter myself as I am sending my three children to European schools in my place. I have no hesitation in saying that they are really helpful and efficient institutions and deserve to be encouraged. All the same I say this, that the European Members of this House and the Government should see that in the interests of non-European students who may be anxious to study in these European schools, their admission is not made prohibitive."

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, I think my hon. Friend, Mr. James has placed this House under a great debt of gratitude first of all for having clarified the issues regarding this question and secondly for the assurance he gave us as a representative of his community by saying that no European school as such is going to close its doors against non-European pupils. Sir, those who know Mr. James know the undoubted influence that he possesses both among the members of his community and among the members of other communities in this House and I therefore think that his assurance must be taken almost as a pledge. I hope and trust that after that assurance given on the floor of this House by the representative of the European community, that community would in future see that pupils belonging to other communities are admitted into European schools provided there is room and accommodation. I don't think European schools are going to be so unreasonable as to deny admission to non-European pupils when there is room available. It is natural and I even venture to suggest that it is necessary that when such schools exist to serve the special interests of a particular community, they should give preference to pupils of that community and it is only after the demand of that community is satisfied that admission to pupils from

19th March 1932] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

other communities should be open. Sir, I venture to ask my Muslim friends on this and on the other side of the House whether they would for one moment put up with the idea of most of the Muslim schools and colleges throwing open their doors to other communities in preference to pupils from their own communities ?"

Mr BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" On a point of personal explanation, Sir, I made it quite clear that the Muhammadan College is a college which is open for admission to communities other than Muslims. I have said that Mr. James, representing the Planters' Association, in his speech drew a distinction between schools in which vernacular is taught and those in which English is taught. We said that in regard to pupils in schools in which English is taught their admission into European schools should not be made prohibitive. Mr. James gave up the whole case when he said that they are running those institutions not on racial considerations but purely on lines of English schools, so that the European pupils here may receive the training that English pupils obtain in England. If that be the case, then the argument of Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar has no bearing on this question at all."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I do not think it is a point of order. (Laughter.) I do realize that in several sectional schools admission of non-sectional pupils is not prohibited. And I also know as a matter of fact in Muhammadan schools and colleges non-Muhammadan pupils are admitted. But the point that I was trying to make out is when such schools exist to serve the interests of particular communities is it fair, is it reasonable and is it just, to expect them to give preferential treatment to pupils coming from other communities in the matter of admission, more especially when their curricula of studies vastly differ from those of other schools ? "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Mr. President, Sir, . . ."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Order, order, the hon. Member will continue his speech."

* Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" I think after the assurance given by the hon. Member for the European community that admission into non-European schools will not be refused merely on the ground that a pupil seeking admission happens to be a non-European and that he would be admitted if there was sufficient accommodation, there is no room for any complaint.

" Another point that has been made out is that the education in the European schools is costly. If they have stated that the European schools are making a distinction in the terms of admission of European boys and Indian boys, I would certainly protest against such a preferential treatment. But I do understand that what is actually happening is that both European and Indian boys are receiving the same treatment in education. When that is so, I do not see any room for complaint, for saying that they are having a prohibitive scale of fees. I know as a matter of fact that the teachers of the European schools are paid

[Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar] [19th March 1932

a high salary and that the equipment there is much better than that obtaining in similar Indian schools. The remedy I would suggest is, as was suggested by Mr. Hameed Khan, to raise the standard of our schools and not to pull down the standard of the European schools. Whenever a question of this kind is mooted here, it is always painted in lurid colours and the bogey of racial discrimination is conjured up before us. And I would say that at least in the matter of education there is no place for such a bogey. Then, Sir, if it is conceded that the Europeans have a place in the country, both in the present and in the future, then they are as much entitled to have a certain portion of the finances of the State to be spent on the education of their boys.

"Sir, I would only refer to one argument that has been advanced against European education. I would characterize it as puerile. Mr. Pocker said that if the Muslims wanted to have separate schools for their boys, it is because they want to safeguard and improve their culture. I have no quarrel with that statement. But he went on to say that the Europeans have no culture, or at least they have not got the same kind of culture of the Muslims, or for that matter the culture of the other communities. I venture to ask whether it is for one moment seriously suggested that the Europeans have no culture apart from the culture of the Hindus or the culture of the Muslims? I do venture to assert that that statement is simply misleading, if not incorrect. I would suggest to my Muslim friends not to oppose the grant for European schools on this ground, for the Europeans can as well claim a separate culture of their own as any other community that exists in India. Finally, Sir I do feel strongly that in a matter of this kind no communal consideration should be brought to bear, but all that should be aimed is that we should have in our Indian schools the same type of education as the European boys are getting in their schools. I would suggest that after the assurance that has been given by Mr. James, this cut motion has lost all its force, and I therefore for my part am inclined to vote against this motion."

Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, my opinion in the matter of education is that all communities should receive equal treatment. If the standard of European schools is high it is because the boys studying there will have to join English schools in England and so they have to adopt the standard of the English schools in India. I may say, being a student of European schools, that the advantages of English schools are considerable. There we get the culture and learning of all countries. In fact that is the very object of education. Regarding the question of racial discrimination that has been mooted out, I have only to say this that there are a large number of English children in different parts of the country who want to prosecute their studies in engineering and other subjects, and so to enable them to obtain admission in English Universities these schools are necessary. In many cases admission is refused for want of accommodation and so I hope Government would grant larger sums of money so that our boys may get admission into these European schools."

19th March 1932]

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" I agree with 3
my hon. Friend regarding the point that special aid should be given for the development of European culture and European institutions. My Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, suggested, that the Europeans not being permanent citizens of India are not entitled to separate institutions. I entirely disagree with him on that point. So long as they have children of school-going age, it is the duty of the State to provide for their education."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I did not mean to say that they should not have special institutions. I thought that their claim will be more justifiable if they had made India their home."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" Having heard him I still maintain that I do not think that anybody will deny that Europeans have a culture of their own and they do require special education for fostering their own culture. Particularly the Muslims who stand for special institutions for imparting their own culture will not deny similar privileges to other communities. I have got only one point to urge against the administration of those institutions. It cannot be denied that those schools charge special and prohibitive rates of fees when non-Europeans seek admission. I can understand if it is only a question of accommodation. There has been a lot of confusion in this House so much so that an hon. Member says that non-Europeans want special and preferential treatment in European schools. It is not a question of preferential treatment at all. What we urge is only this. Let us have equal opportunities. We do not want preferential treatment. Not even equal opportunities. What we want is, provided accommodation permits, every non-European should have the same facilities as an European, to get instruction in those institutions. Under the present rules they are charging extra heavy fees for non-Europeans. Certainly that cannot be supported on any reasonable ground whatsoever. They are receiving Government grants and they are bound to provide instruction for all students who seek admission in those schools. The present system of charging special prohibitive rates only to non-Europeans while charging low rates to Europeans cannot be supported on any ground whatsoever."

Mr. F. E. JAMES:—" May I rise on a point of correction? As far as I am aware there is no case that I know of where extra special rates and high rates are charged in European schools for Indian students. There may be some difference on this account, that in many of these schools there are very large endowments—about 40 per cent of the total cost is covered by endowments—and these endowments are for the purpose of European and Anglo-Indian education. When that is taken into consideration the fee charged for boys of these two communities is less than what will be for others. But I am not aware of any racial discrimination."

* Khan Bahadur P. KHALIF-UL-LAH SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do not know anything about these special endowments. But I speak from Personal knowledge. In Trichinopoly there are Anglo-Indian institutions,

which charge comparatively high rates for non-Europeans. I speak from personal knowledge. I hear there are similar institutions in Madras and other places. So long as these prohibitive rates are not charged for non-Europeans, I am one with Mr. James in strongly supporting these special institutions and giving them more facilities than they are receiving just at present."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, wanted to know certain information about the retrenchments that have been effected in the department of European education. I may say, Sir, that all teaching grants have been cut down by $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent; the duration of scholarships have been reduced from 12 to 9 months. No scholarships are being awarded for next year. In stipends for teachers we have made a reduction of 25 per cent. Provision for building and equipment grants have been considerably reduced. Last year, Sir, I came for a Demand of Rs. 7,49,300. Thus, we have made a retrenchment of Rs. 44,100. As for boarding grants, I may say Government are not able to make any reduction, because, we thought the grant of Rs. 10 per head was not too much. With regard to the remarks of my hon. Friend, Mr. James, I agree that there should be more schools equipped on the lines of European schools so that Indian boys may also have a higher type of education. My hon. Friend, Mr. James, said if more schools on these lines are established, then the European boys may be sent to such schools and the differentiation of having separate schools for Europeans may disappear to a great extent. I cannot see any objection, Sir, to Europeans having separate schools inasmuch as this House is committed to a policy of separate schools for other communities. For example, we have for the Muhammadan community provided several separate schools. There is a Muhammadan College also. Of course very few pupils other than Muslims are admitted in these institutions."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"On a matter of correction, there is no prohibition of admission to any community in the Muhammadan college. Students of other communities do not apply." (A voice: 'In Pachayappa's, Muslims are not admitted.').

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Preference is given to Muhammadan students in order to preserve Muslim culture, and to see that Muhammadan boys are educated in the Muslim languages. Similarly I do not see why Europeans should not have separate schools where they may be educated in their own language and in their own culture. As regards the admission of Indians under the present rules, the management have got a discretion to admit them up to about $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. They are not able to do more than this on account of the fact that they would like to preserve their distinctive character. I do not see any objection to this, because, if there are to be European schools, they must preserve their separate entity and a majority in these schools must be Europeans. In this connexion I may say we have got the Pachayappa's schools. Those schools are open to Hindu boys only and still the Government give grants to them. The Government having

accepted the principle of separate schools for Hindus and Muhammadans cannot refuse such a privilege to the European community. It has been brought to my notice that there is a great desire for Indian parents to send their boys and girls to these schools and the fees are prohibitive. For this, my hon. Friend, Mr. James, has given an effective reply. I shall speak to the Director of Public Instruction and see if anything could be done."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved (European) for a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,05,200 was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XIX—MEDICAL—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> '*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 78,14,000 *under Demand XIX—Medical—Transferred*'."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, I move, Sir,—

> '*that the Demand just now made be reduced by a sum of Rs.* 100'

to discuss the policy of Government in the Medical department. Sir, I consider that the present is a very opportune time to discuss the question of medical policy; because, Sir, Government is now in the midst of financial difficulties and any suggestions that the Members of this House can make with a view to making medical administration less expensive and, if possible, more efficient ought to be welcome. This question, Sir, has been raised in previous years in discussing the Budget Demand for the medical department; but I am yet to know, Sir, whether Government even to-day has got a definite policy with reference to questions affecting Medical administration. There is the great problem of bringing medical relief to the millions that inhabit this Presidency, particularly in the villages. At present, Sir, our medical institutions are confined to the chief cities of the Presidency and to a few other centres. During the last few years the Government has gone on with a policy of taking over charge of taluk headquarter hospitals; but I believe on account of the financial difficulties and finding that the taking over of these institutions in their entirety was beyond their means as they now conceive it, they have not carried out in its entirety the policy of taking over all taluk headquarter institutions. In fact, they have possibly taken over only one-third of the taluk hospitals. I am not aware of the exact number. But, Sir, even if Government had taken over all these taluk headquarter hospitals and made them surgical centres as it was intended to do, it would not have been possible for Government to administer to the rural population, the medical relief, the people have got a right to expect. The problem is entirely a problem of finance.

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [19th March 1932

5 "At present I believe Government spends somewhere about 50 or 60 lakhs on establishment alone out of a total budgetary allotment of about 80 to 90 lakhs. These figures are approximate, but I think they are near enough to the mark for the purposes of my argument. Looking at these figures, it must be admitted that Government cannot afford to spend along the present lines if they are to solve the problem of affording medical relief to the rural population in this Presidency. They must devise other methods which would be cheaper and which would be equally or at least as nearly efficient as the present methods. As I said at the very beginning, the present seems to be a very opportune moment for considering the whole question of medical policy and the problem of bringing medical relief nearer to the homes of the people. The financial stringency has forced the Government to extend their old proposal of appointing more honorary officers for administering medical relief. Recently, we heard from Government a very welcome proposal that they were going to man the Madras Royapetta Hospital entirely by honoraries. I am not in possession of the details of their proposals, and I do not know how many honoraries are going to be employed and how many paid-men are going to be still retained there. But, Sir, the system of appointing honorary officers, not merely to the hospitals in Madras, but to hospitals and dispensaries in the mufassal stations as well is one of the directions that the Government must pursue if it is to achieve the problem of economy in medical relief, if it is at all to achieve the ultimate problem of bringing medical relief nearer the homes of the people. I would like in this connexion to ask what the Government's detailed proposals are with reference to this question of the larger employment of honorary physicians and surgeons and assistants in the mufassal and other hospitals. Are they going to stop with the Royapetta Hospital and with a few of the mufassal hospitals in the beginning? What is the resultant economy they expect? The system of extended employment of honoraries certainly opens out hopes of the Government ultimately effecting large economies on its medical establishment with a view to extending the system of medical relief. I would therefore ask, Sir, what measure of economy they expect to achieve by the measures they have already taken and by the measures they propose to adopt in the future. The system of opening rural dispensaries was started some years ago; but I am not aware that we have made very much progress in the development of that system. At first the honoraria paid to these men who were willing to man these dispensaries were insufficient and Government subsequently increased them; and I believe they have also undertaken to provide for midwives in those rural dispensaries on certain conditions. I ask my Friend, the Chief Minister, to let us know what progress they have made in this system of rural dispensaries; and may I ask also what is their ultimate programme and how many do they propose opening altogether so as to bring medical relief within the reach of the people in the villages? I believe, Sir, that to make even a reasonable approach to the relief that is required, we shall want possibly nothing short of 600 more dispensaries. What

19th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

is it going to cost and how does Government propose to meet it? It can be met only if they reduce the establishment charges on the present medical establishments.

"Then, Sir, may I ask what is the place assigned by Government to the Indian Systems of Medicine in their system of rural medical relief? In Madras, we have started a School of Indian Medicine, and every year it is turning out a certain number of licentiates—about 40 or 50 every year. What is the place that the Government propose to assign to these people in their system of rural medical relief? Is it to be haphazard depending on the will and pleasure of Government? Have they considered the number of places that they should allot for the Ayurvedic system, the number for the Sidda system, the number for the Unani system and so forth? Otherwise it is absurd that we shall be turning out these men from the School of Medicines without any definite ideas as to what place they are going to occupy in the scheme of rural medical relief.

"Then, apart from the question of policy, I should like to ask my hon. Friend, a few questions about cognate matters. With regard to the demands of the British Medical Council, what is the attitude of the Madras Government? Are they going to be dictated to by that Council; are they going to make medical education more expensive and make it correspond to the standard set up by that body? Are they going to insist upon the holders of European degrees getting registered in Madras before they are allowed to practice here? I would like my hon. Friend to explain the attitude of the Madras Government in this matter.

"Then, Sir, with reference to the question of private practice, it is a complicated and difficult question. But if you are ever going to develop an efficient private medical profession, you must solve this problem, and until you solve this problem you would certainly not succeed in establishing an efficient band of private practitioners. But, I think, Sir, it is now time that the Government did make up its mind about what they are going to do ultimately. I do not recommend that there should be no limitations on the stoppage of private practice, but Government might possibly indicate the nature of the limitation. I prefer not to go into detail on this occasion, but the question is one that the hon. Minister and the Government have to make up their minds upon. I am not referring to the scandals about private practice in some places. I think this is not the place for it.

"With regard to the Guntur Medical School, I believe, the Government have passed orders to close that school. I should like the Government to consider the whole question. You have got the new buildings and the necessary equipments there, and besides, you have got no other medical school in the Andhra country. The object of the medical school there was to make medical education available to the students of the Andhradesa. That was the intention of the Raja of Panagal, who originated the scheme. But what has happened in the meanwhile to change your opinion? Have you made up your mind

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [19th March 1932

that the number of men turned out by medical schools are too many? On the contrary, looking at the state of things in other countries in the world, I should think that the number of medical men available in this Presidency is certainly not up to the standard of those countries, and further you have got to solve this problem of bringing medical relief to rural parts. I think you cannot afford to close the Guntur school, not to speak of others.

"Then, Sir, there is the question of retrenchment in the Medical department. I think there has been a certain amount of injustice, as far as my information goes. First of all I would like to know how many I.M.D. people you have got in the Medical department. I believe you are not bound under present contracts to keep up the present number. In fact, there is no statute compelling you to keep any at all. We have got no provision in the Government of India Act, so far as I.M.S. officers are concerned; there is no statutory provision for I.M.Ds. We are willing to help the Government of India in keeping a certain number. But why are you keeping more than the number you are under agreement with the Government of India to keep? I believe, Sir, it is time, apart from other things, that some of these men are retired. I have heard of the case of at least one whom it would be well in his own interests, and the interests of service, on account of his age to retire. I wish the hon. Minister would enquire into this matter, particularly as there is a good deal of heartburning in connexion with the retrenchments already effected which have compelled a number of people to be sent home.

"Then, Sir, about the case of the twelve assistant surgeons about whom I referred in my speech on the general discussion of the Budget, my friend told me about the appointments of a certain number of sub-assistant surgeons. I think the appointment of nine in the assistant surgeon's grade was made before the Retrenchment Committee passed its recommendations. I have got a suspicion that somebody in the know of things pushed on with the proposal to make the assistant surgeons permanent which resulted in sending away twelve sub-assistant surgeons. I would like to know whether there is any truth in it.

"Then, Sir, how far have you given effect to the Government orders in connexion with retrenchment, to retire men who have put in 30 and 25 years' service? My information is—I may be wrong—that a certain number of men who on account of age can be retired are still kept on. It is most unfair that the younger men should be sent home and these men who have completed their service should be kept on.

"I remember I was mentioning certain specific instances where injustice had been done. I would like to know from my hon. Friend, if the information is correct, or if I am wrong to contradict me. First of all I would like to mention the case of Professor of Pathology in the Madras Medical College. I personally knew something of this case. He was appointed some years ago on the understanding that he would

19th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

be made permanent after his obtaining a medical degree. In accorc ance with the order given to him he went to England and took h: degree and came back and proposals for his confirmation were sent t the Government. I am told he got the degree in July and proposal for his confirmation reached the Secretariat on the 13th August. On th 15th August the papers are returned saying that as a result of th recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee orders of Goverr ment were issuing to the effect that people not confirmed on the 15t August should not be confirmed, and this person is still remaining a acting, drawing the pay of a Civil Surgeon. He was promised confirme tion on obtaining a high medical degree and I think in fairness t him confirmation should have followed. You are not abolishing th post and I do not see the object of keeping a Civil Surgeon's post an making this man act in that place indefinitely.

" With reference to the professorship of Physiology in the Vizag patam Medical College, I am told that the appointment has not bee abolished. A London Committee appointed by the Government cor sisting of some of the very distinguished officers, selected a young Muhan madan gentleman by name Basheer with very high medical degree fo this post. He was asked to appear before the Public Services Commis sion and they also recommended him as a suitable candidate but he ha been sent to the Vizagapatam Medical College as Lecturer in Physiology He has been asked to take the place of an assistant surgeon with a: allowance of Rs. 150. So long as you have not abolished the Civi Surgeon's place which is still there, why should you have an Assistan Surgeon with these qualifications? Why should you have him as a: Assistant Surgeon when you promised him a higher pay, the pa advertised being Rs. 1,100 (starting) for an outsider and Rs. 700 t Rs. 1,200 for a man in the service? This man is a man in service an I cannot see the fairness of your keeping this man with an Assistan Surgeon's salary in a Civil Surgeon's place giviug him an allowance If for nothing else, the very fact that he is a Mussalman, and a dis tinguished Mussalman graduate should have induced you to treat hin with special consideration.

" Then, Sir, there are two other cases which are analogous to th ones I have mentioned above. I do not think I need go into details Those cases are the cases of Dr. Kini and Dr. Kutumbiah, who are eve now working as Assistant Surgeons in Civil Surgeons' posts. Th cases are very much analogous to the cases I have mentioned above an I think what you are doing is quite unfair to these men.

" I have already said that it is high time that Government had definite plan. I do not know what my Friend is going to say on that We had this question of medical policy discussed on the floor of thi House several times in previous years. I would like my hon. Friend the Chief Minister, to tell me what his policy is with reference to th expansion of the paid medical establishment, whether they are goin to approach a solution of this problem of medical relief by expanding the paid medical establishment; if not whether they are going to seel a solution of this problem by extending the system of honorary worker

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [19th March 1932

and if there is any proposal to that effect and lastly what exactly is the proposal with reference to the giving of medical relief to rural areas and what is the place of Indian Systems of Medicine in such a scheme. I would like to have a definite answer to all these points from the hon. the Chief Minister."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The motion is that the allotment of Rs. 78,14,000 under Demand XIX—Medical—Transferred, be reduced by Rs. 100.

" As the time allowed is two hours and as the Demand is to be voted at 5-10 p.m., I wish to recall to the minds of hon. Members, the observations I made yesterday in connexion with another Demand."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" It has been rightly pointed out by the hon. the floor Leader of the Opposition that the object of any Government, ought to be to render medical relief to its people as economically as possible, but the figures pertaining to the Medical Budget of the Madras Government show that it has not been the policy of the Government to render medical relief as economically as possible, though they may claim to have done it effectively. Even in that respect I do not agree with the Government. Whereas in the year 1925–26, the Government were spending Rs. 56 lakhs for the whole of the Medical Department, now the Minister has come forward with a demand for 78 lakhs of rupees. Including the non-votable items also, the total amount that is proposed to be spent for this department during the coming year comes to Rs. 83·03 lakhs. I should like to ask one question. Your expenditure has been increasing year after year and it has increased by about 50 per cent when compared with the figures for the year 1925–26. Has there been commensurate increase in medical relief? I am afraid not. There were in this Presidency 959 medical institutions in 1925–26, but according to the latest report of the Surgeon-General, I find that it has increased to only 1,128. That is to say there has been an increase of 23 or 24 per cent. I shall now take the number of bed in all the hospitals in this Presidency. In the hospitals of classes 1, 2 3 and 4 in the Presidency, the total number of beds available in th year 1925–26 were about 7,748; and according to the latest report, th number of beds has increased to 9,464. That comes to an increase o about 1,700 or so. Does the extra money that the Government hav been spending all these years justify this meagre increase of about 2 per cent in the number of medical institutions, and an increase about the same in the number of beds in the hospitals of the Presidency Does this justify the extra expenditure of Rs. 30 lakhs for the Medic Department?

" With these few remarks, I now come to the revenue side of t Budget. According to the Budget Memorandum placed before us, t Government expect a revenue of Rs. 1·4 lakhs by way of hospi receipts. This decrease when compared with the figures of the previc year is said to be due to the following causes, as stated in the Bud Memorandum :

'[illegible] *receipts.*—This head comprises fees for medical advice [illegible] charges for patients treated in Governm

19th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

hospitals. The decrease in the Revised Estimate for the current year and in the Budget Estimate for the ensuing year is due to a fall in the number of paying and special ward patients in Government hospitals.'

" Sir, according to the report of the Surgeon-General, the number of paying wards in all the hospitals, particularly in the hospital in Madras, has been considerably increased. Some special clinics in radiology and things of that kind have also been introduced in many hospitals. Therefore one naturally expects the revenue of the Government to increase. But this is a typical instance of increased expenditure yielding decreasing returns. What according to Government, are the causes for this state of affairs? My opinion is that the moneys collected in the hospitals instead of going into the coffers of the State, goes into the pockets of the medical officers in the hospitals. I shall deal with this in detail when I come to deal with the way in which the hospitals are run in some parts of the Presidency.

" I said that the policy of the Government ought to be to give medical relief as economically as possible. At the present moment when there is great financial stringency, and when Government want to cut expenditure in several directions, is it not just and proper that they should also cut down their expenditure in the Medical Department? They can effect economies and cut down their expenditure in the Medical Department in several ways. One important way, as has been pointed out by the hon. the Mover of the Motion, is to introduce honorary officers in the place of paid officers. No doubt, Government have appointed certain honorary surgeons and physicians here and there. But I submit they have been giving a step-motherly treatment to this system. According to the latest report of the Surgeon-General, ' in a few institutions, the honorary Medical officers are actually replacing the Government Medical Officers; though in the majority of cases, the honorary Medical officers work in addition to Government staff, and are of considerable aid to them.

" Sir, I have gone through all the records pertaining to the Medical Department, and I am not able to find, except perhaps in one institution, where a honorary man has displaced a paid man—any institution where honorary men have displaced paid men. The only instance where an honorary officer has displaced a paid officer is in the Head-quarter Hospital at Madura, where the Assistant Surgeon who was in charge of the ophthalmic section was displaced by an honorary officer. In no other case has an honorary officer displaced a paid officer. Though the number of honorary officers who have been recruited has been increasing of late, I submit there has been no saving to Government. They have been treated as supernumerary, and have only lightened the work of the paid officers and thus helped them to carry on their private practice on a larger and more organized scale than before.

" The second way in which the expenditure on the Medical Department can be cut down is by effective retrenchment, retiring as many officers as possible with due regard to their service. At any rate officers who have put in more than thirty years' service could have been sent 3 p.m.

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [19th March 1932

home. On the other hand, the Retrenchment Committee has been able to dispense with the services of a few assistant surgeons only. The Budget Memorandum (page 67) says:

'The more important of the measures of retrenchment which have been taken into account in the estimates are the abolition of the posts of assistant to Third Physician, General Hospital, and the sub-assistant surgeon attached to the Government Hospital for Women and Children; the conversion of the post of Radiologist in the Government Rayapuram Hospital from a Civil Assistant Surgeon's charge to that of a sub-assistant surgeon, . .'

and so on.

"With regard to Medical Schools and Colleges the Memorandum says:

'The decrease in the estimates is due to the abolition of the posts of an assistant to the professor of medicine and the assistant professors of pharmacology, hygiene, pathology and bio-chemistry, in the Medical College, Madras, of lecturers in anatomy and physiology in the Rayapuram Medical School . . .'

and so on.

"After all, the Retrenchment Committee was able to cut down the expenditure on all the establishments of the Medical Department by about Rs. 2 lakhs only, whereas it would have been easily possible to effect much greater savings.

"With regard to the introduction of the honorary system in the Government Hospitals, I am afraid the policy of the Government appears to be to bring this system into disrepute. I have had opportunities of noting the names of people appointed as honorary officers. I find that a first-rate hospital like the Royapetta Hospital is proposed to be manned by, if I may be permitted to say so, fifth-rate medical men, when first-rate medical men could easily have been secured if the Government had made an earnest attempt. This is the way in which they want to bring discredit on the honorary system in hospitals.

"The privilege of private practice now enjoyed by Government Medical Officers has brought about undesirable effects in the service. I believe this privilege was extended to them about thirty or forty years ago, when there were only a few allopathic practitioners in the country. Then the Government thought that the benefits of that system should be made available to all the people. But to-day, I ask whethe the Government still believe that there are not enough number o private medical men to meet the needs of the people. I know th hon. the Chief Minister cannot answer that question categorically. O the 29th October last, in reply to a question of mine as to why tl Government Medical Officers were allowed the privilege of priva practice, the hon. Minister gave an answer which is rather ellipti He said that the Government were of opinion that the independe medical profession was not in a position to meet the medical needs the people in the Presidency, and therefore this privilege was given the Goverment Medical Officers. Sir, this answer is capable of m than one interpretation. One interpretation is that in the opinion the hon. Minister there are not enough medical men to meet the ne of the people; and the other is that only Government Medical Offic ...fficient medical relief to the people, and

19th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

private medical men are not. I may say at once that the first interpretation is a wrong one and is not in consonance with facts. Lieutenant Colonel Bradfield who was till recently the Superintendent of the Government General Hospital, and who also acted as the Surgeon-General for some time, has said that there are in this country enough number of medical men—even more than what is generally available in advanced countries like England. Addressing the local branch of the British Medical Association in 1928—four years ago—he said that there was roughly one doctor for every 840 of the population in Madras, whereas in England there was one doctor for every 920 of the population. Therefore it is no good saying that there are not enough men. If we take the second interpretation, viz., that only Government Medical Officers and not private medical men are capable of rendering medical aid to the people, I think the hon. Minister would be on dangerous ground. It would be a deliberate insult to the independent medical profession. It would also be a great discredit to the Government themselves who are responsible for turning out these medical men from their schools and colleges. I should think that nothing would have been farther from the mind of the hon. Minister than this, when he answered that question of mine.

" Sir, paragraphs 279 to 284 of the Madras Civil Medical Code relate to private practice. These sections clearly lay down that no medical officer is at liberty to carry on private practice to the detriment of his legitimate work in hospitals and dispensaries. But we find these rudes being disregarded; and Government Medical Officers enjoying private practice quite against the rules framed by the Government. Paragraph 140 of the Madras Civil Medical Code gives a list of officers who are absolutely prohibited from private practice. I ask one straight question: does the hon. Minister think that this rule is being observed? The officers holding the following appointments are debarred from having private practice:—The Superintendent, General Hospital—I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether he is not having private practice—the Third Physician, General Hospital—I ask the hon. the Chief Minister whether he is not having private practice—the Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General, the Chemical Examiner to the Government, the Resident Medical Officer of the General Hospital—I have no complaint against them—the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital—I ask the hon. Minister whether he is not having private patients, whether he is not having what are known as voluntary boarders. There are over twelve officers in this list and I ask whether all these officers observe the rules laid down by Government for their guidance. Some of these officers have gone to the extent of saying by means of their behaviour:—' We don't care for your Medical Code, we will do things as we like.'

" In the course of some of my interpellations in this Council, I brought to the notice of the House that a certain Surgeon in the Madras General Hospital, quite against the rules laid down by the Madras Civil Medical Code, has been running a nursing home of his own for his own benefit. and to the detriment of his duties in the hospital for

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [19th March 1932

which he is paid by the Government. The hon. the Chief Minister in that connexion replied that Government Medical Officers were not permitted to maintain regular nursing homes, and that the Government had no reason to believe that this rule was being violated. On the 30th October I put one straight question whether the hon. Minister was aware of the fact that a certain Surgeon of the General Hospital was running a nursing home in 'Binfield House.' And he replied 'Yes, he has been permitted by the Surgeon-General to maintain a nursing home for his own private patients.' I ask under what rule was this officer permitted to run this home. My opinion is that under the Fundamental Rules the Surgeon-General has no power to give such a permission to an officer to run a nursing home, without consulting the Government. I have read the Fundamental Rules and I may state for the information and benefit of the hon. Minister that this act of the Surgeon-General is against the Fundamental Rules. According to these rules the head of a department has absolutely no power to give permission to any of his subordinates to carry on any private business, without the explicit sanction of the Government. And according to the admission of the hon. Minister the Government were not at all consulted. Later on I asked the hon. Minister to produce the application made by this Medical officer for permisson to run the nursing home, and the orders of the Surgeon-General thereon. In answer to that question, on the 24th February this year, the hon. Minister said that there was no written application and no written order was passed by the Surgeon-General, and that everything was done orally. I ask, is it fair. You stated categorically in your answer on the 28th February 1931 that these officers are prohibited from running nursing homes and that if the attention of the Government is drawn to any breach of that rule by any officer Government would enquire into the matter and take disciplinary action. That was the statement you made on the floor of the House, not only in reply to questions, but also in
.m. your speech winding up the Medical Budget debate last year. When it is brought to your notice that a nursing home is being run by a particular officer, you say he was permitted. When the question is asked 'when did he apply for permission and what orders were passed by the Surgeon-General?', you come forward and say that no written application was made and that no written orders were passed. According to the statement of the hon. Minister, this permission is supposed to have been given in the year 1926–27. The present Surgeon-General was not there. I ask, how the hon. the Minister came to know that this particular Surgeon had applied for permission and that the then Surgeon-General had given permission, when there are no records. How do you say that he has been permitted to run a nursing home by the Surgeon-General? I ask whether it is in consonance with the rules that you have framed—the Civil Medical Code—that officers should not be allowed to run nursing homes. Perhaps many hon. Members do not know what a nursing home is. To explain it broadly, nursing home is a boarding house or a hotel. I am informed that a patient seeking admission has got to pay about Rs. 15 as halting charges

19th March 1932]

Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—" On a point of order, Sir. May I ask if explaining 'nursing home' is part and parcel of the subject-matter under discussion?"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" That is not a point of order."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" I ask, Sir, if a Medical Officer under Government is allowed to run a boarding house, and make profits. I may leave this matter here.

" There is yet another phase of this pernicious private practice, and that is, the acceptance of appointments, by Medical officers, of Inspectors of children in schools both under Government and under private management. It has been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister over and over again that several officers under Government who are holding responsible appointments, accept other definitely additional appointments, in some cases under the Government and in others under private authorities, for examining children in schools and colleges, for which they are paid specific sums. I know of instances where some officers have held appointments of Medical Inspectors of about twenty or thirty schools not only in the area in which they are posted but even outside. I can quote an instance of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon posted in Madura who was supposed to be there, holding the appointment of Medical Inspector of several schools in Madras. How does this officer find time to come all the way from Madura, examine the children in Madras numbering about 12,000 or 13,000, and certify about their health? I condemn the private practice enjoyed by these officers because I feel that it will ultimately bring about a demoralizing state of affairs in this department, such as I have narrated above. There is another reason also. I ask the hon. Minister whether, in fairness to the independent practitioners, he should not see that there is no unfair competition and they get at least some means of livelihood, at least a few rupees a day to pull on. I know several cases of medical men, who are M.Bs., who are practically starving, being unable to make headway against the unfair competition of men in service. There is one even in the gallery above. Will not this appeal at least move the hon. the Minister to see that private medical practitioners are enabled to get on? This is the state of affairs. This is the state to which you have brought the independent medical profession in this country. That is why no eminent practitioner of the West comes here to practice. Certainly, it is unfair competition. Because, the service man has the whole hospital team and equipment to help him in his private practice.

" Next, I should like to bring to the notice of the hon. the Minister one or two cases of great irregularities in the hospitals in the city of Madras, the Madras General Hospital, the Victoria Gosha Hospital for Women in Madras and the Tuberculosis Hospital. Perhaps many hon. Members of this House know how a certain very distinguished visitor to this Province was taken to the Madras General Hospital by a hon. Member of this House the other day and what treatment was given him. I should think that it has been brought to the notice of the hon. the Minister. When such distinguished persons are not able to

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [19th March 1932

get proper treatment in the General Hospital, how do you expect poor patients seeking admission into that hospital, to get proper treatment? I can state with a full sense of responsibility that no proper treatment is available to a patient seeking admission into the hospital unless he goes to the Surgeon or Physician concerned in the morning or the previous day, and pays him the consultation fee of Rs. 10 or Rs. 20 Otherwise, he has no chance of even getting admission. That is the state of affairs.

" Speaking of the same hospital, there is a department known as the Department of Radiology, where you have got a set of specialists. I am unable to understand why the Government should go into shares with the officers in charge of the department, of the fees collected from patients seeking treatment in that department? In the Madras General Hospital when a patient goes to the Department of Radiology, for treatment, he has to pay a certain rate of fees. But that fee does not go to the coffers of the Government. Fifty per cent of that money is taken by the officer in charge of the department and only the other fifty per cent is handed over to the Government. If the patient goes directly, without the introduction of any practitioner, to the officer concerned, 75 per cent of the amount collected from the patient is taken away by the officer and only 25 per cent of the fees is credited to the Government. I ask why is that? The Radiologist is being paid a very high salary; he is paid a city allowance of Rs. 150 or so, and a special allowance of Rs. 200 or so. Why do you give this extra money? What is this extra money for? The Surgeon-General himself has admitted the fact that work in the Radiology department in the General Hospital, or for the matter of that in any hospital, is less dangerous under modern conditions. That is to say, the Government formerly allowed these officers to take a portion of the money collected from the patients, as compensation for the danger or risk that they exposed themselves in treating the patients. Now according to the expert adviser of the Government, there is no such danger attached to that office. That is a definite statement made by the Surgeon-General to the Retrenchment Committee. While that is so, I cannot understand why the Government should still continue to allow this officer to take away about 50 per cent of the amount that is being collected from the patients coming for treatment.

" Coming to the Victoria Gosha Hospital, I should like to invite the attention of the hon. the Minister to a leading article that appeared in the last February number of ' The Medical Practitioner.' It graphically depicts how that institution is being utterly neglected by Government and is going to ruin. The ' Medical Practitioner,' one of the organs of the Independent Medical Profession in this Presidency, has portrayed in graphic terms how this hospital is being neglected, and how patients are made to sleep in verandas without any shelter whatever. I ask, Sir, whether it is fair that an institution—perhaps the only institution in this Presidency which serves to the needs of one half of the population, and that the better half—should be left in such a neglected state without any care whatsoever.

19th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

"Speaking of the Tuberculosis Hospital, I think, I have to make one remark; I have had opportunities of going in, and finding out for myself whether the patients undergoing treatment in that hospital are of that class of people for whom hospitals are intended. If I may frankly say, that hospital appears to be a close preserve of a certain section of the community—I do not want to say what section. That is the state of affairs. Any patient who seeks admission has first to go to either the Superintendent, or the Assistant Superintendent and to pay the mamul fee if he wants to get admission into that hospital. In that manner it has become a private hospital. Now I am reminded of one point. Until recently the Superintendent of the Tuberculosis Hospital was the Secretary of the National Health Association which is supposed to be doing very good work. For the moment, I will admit that it is. When that officer has been able to devote so much time and energy to the work of the National Health Association, why does he want then, an Assistant Superintendent to assist him in the hospital work? When he is capable of turning out so much work to the advantage of the National Health Association, why not he devote that time to the hospital work and get on without an Assistant Superintendent? Is it not a sheer waste of public money? I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to several other points, but I do not want to take up any more of the time of the House."

* Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, I did not want to take part in the discussion to-day. But my young Friend, Mr. Arasu, seems to possess so much information and dealt at length with hospitals and medical men. I know that one Medical Officer is running a nursing home, that is, Dr. Pandalai. A physician after examining the patient, gives him a prescription and sends him to a pharmacist in whom he has confideuce, to have his prescription compounded. If he has no confidence in any pharmacist he will like to have it compounded in his own pharmacy, if he keeps one. Suppose the physician prescribes a small quantity of digitalis, say 2 or 3 mms. If the pharmacist mixes 20 or 30 mms., there may be trouble. The physician therefore says 'go to a first-class pharmacist, a qualified pharmacist.' Physicians are not allowed to send their prescriptions unless qualified men are employed to compound them. While it is so, the physician need not necessarily be so very careful. He gives the prescription and there ends his responsibility. If he is a conscientious physician, what does he do? Although the patient does not come to him afterwards, he makes enquiries after the patient. He will think: 'that man came to me with a terrible disease; I gave him that medicine; how is he getting on; is the medicine effective?' So, he will have to enquire after the man. One man goes to the physician and takes the prescription away. How is the physician to find out whether the medicine he gave had any effect. The patient paid him money, did he have the benefit of his prescription? He will be glad if the patient again comes to him. If the patient simply takes away the prescription and goes out without turning up again, how is the doctor to find out if he

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [19th March 1932

is better or if he is improving? In some cases the physician may ask somebody else to look after the patient, he may even put a nurse there; but yet he will continue to be anxious about the patient and to know how the nurse is doing her work. So, Sir, a physician who need not take so much responsibility, does take much care about the patient. But it is not so with a surgeon. He is not only to diagnose and operate taking all aseptic and antiseptic precautions but after operation the patient should be very carefully looked after. Suppose Colonel Pandalai has a case. There is a liver abscess; it has to be operated. If he simply says, get it operated, but who is to operate? Suppose the patient is one who will not go to hospital. There are many people who refuse to go to hospital. And in such a case, is he to say 'get it operated' and to keep quiet! Anybody in the street cannot operate! No. This is an operation to be done by himself. This is not a case of opening and letting out puss; as aseptic and antiseptic precautions have to be taken. That is why the surgeons are generally afraid of allowing their patients to have their own way. That is why Colonel Pandalai, Colonel Niblock and other surgeons were taking care about the patients whom they operated upon by keeping them under their direct supervision. Our middle-class people, Sir, will never go to hospitals and even the few people who go, do so reluctantly. I know many of my friends who avoid hospitals got into Colonel Pandalai's treatment home. I cannot say it is a nursing home at all; only it is a home for his patients, so that the patients can at any time be under his own personal supervision. And if by chance the Minister said that a nursing home is not allowed to be run, let it be understood that Colonel Pandalai's is not a nursing home. I hope that the Minister will not interfere with Colonel Pandalai's running the nursing home or do anything of the sort. Sir, nobody knows what complications will arise. A dust on the wound may create tetanus, give the greatest trouble and even kill the patient. Even a common ordinary vaccine if it is not injected aseptically may produce tetanus. In the old days people used to say 'ரணஜன்னி கண்டுவிட்டது'. They mean tetanus. But how is it that when a man is hurt, they immediately paint tincture iodine over the wound. They do it in order to kill any germ that may be there and prevent tetanus. How many *ranajani* cases, tetanus cases, are there nowadays? So, my Friend, Mr. Arasu will excuse the medical people, the surgeons especially, if they are running their own surgeries, their own homes in order to safeguard the lives of their own patients. I know there are many cases where the rich middle class people took advantage of Colonel Pandalai's nursing home. While the facts are like that, how does my hon. Friend Mr. Arasu know that Colonel Pandalai having built such a mansion for his patients, is getting a profit? (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'Is it a losing concern then?') Yes; in the long run I think he will suffer. For, though the public are under an obligation to a medical man from their ante-natal period to their dotage and death, yet when the question of remunerating the medical man comes, they hesitate. I therefore hope, Sir, that our surgeons at least will be allowed to have their homes.

19th March 1932] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

" Another charge brought against some of the medical men in the General Hospital by Mr. Arasu—he may be right—is, that medical people take money from the patients before they are admitted into the hospital. Sir, people come to me and ask me to let them know whether such and such a case can be admitted into the hospital or whether it can be treated at home. So also, they want to consult the surgeon as to whether any particular case should be taken to the hospital or can be privately treated. If it is found to be capable of private treatment, they want to know whether a particular doctor can do it. Let it be, say, just the ankylosis of a joint; he comes and says 'I want to consult a medical man whether this can be cured and if opertion is to be performed, whether it can be done at home'; when told it is not possible he seeks admission into the hospital. What will the poor surgeon do? He cannot say 'no.' *It is not the surgeon who wants to take him in the hospital; it is the man himself who wants to be taken in. Of course Mr. Arasu may be right* because he searches for and studies these things. But to say that all surgeons are doing like that, is not fair.

" *And then, Sir, about the Radiologist.* It was said he was taking a *certain fee. My friend is mistaken. Our patients are so very* suspicious. Most probably, when the Radiologist puts the portion due to him into his pocket, the people immediately think that he puts the whole money into his pocket. Of course I am thankful to Mr. Arasu for having brought out all these things. Criticism is necessary, so that at any rate hereafter such things—if they had occurred even now, but I am almost certain that they have not—may not recur, so that the Surgeon-General or the Minister may take care to see that such things do not creep in. I can say, Sir, that our medical men in the General Hospital are very good, are generous; they are considerate towards the patients.

" Then, Sir, Mr. Arasu made some remarks—of course there are very good points in Arasu's criticisms (laughter) I am saying all this because I do not want to be attacked later on by anybody—that I was partial. Whenever any question about medical inspection is put to the Minister and asked if it is satisfactory, he says not satisfactory. I do not know how it is not satisfactory; but, Sir, what are the medical inspectors to do? The Surgeon-General or some other authorities give the medical inspector certain forms to be filled up. There is a list given about various diseases. One item may be scalp disease. Whether his case is one of suffering *from scalp disease, the inspecting officer* examines the scalp *and writes down whether there is any disease or not. Then he goes to the heading in the list for the disease of skin.* He examines whether there is any whitish or yellowish or any other patch in the skin, whether the man is suffering from leprosy or not, whether he is suffering from ringworm or some other thing. He will then have to write the result of his examination there. Then he takes up the heading 'eye.' He must see if the eyes are good; if the eyelids are alright. Then, he looks into the eye-balls and examines whether they are 'alright' and writes down the result, whether there is any error

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [19th March 1932

of refraction, and so on. Then about the tooth, about the gums, about the throat, about the tonsils; about the adenoid—the results of examination in all these things he will have to write after examining them thoroughly. Then he comes to the lungs, to the heart, to the stomach. Then he sees if there is hydrocele, hernia or any other deformity, or worm disease. Whatever the Surgeon-General or authorities ask him to examine, he does and writes down the result. How can the Minister say—excuse me, Sir, he is the leader for me too (Laughter)—' the medical inspection is not satisfactory '? If an individual is an inspector, if he commits a mistake and if he does not give a proper reply, then the authorities will have to tackle that medical inspector and not deal with the duties of medical inspectors generally.

" Then, Sir, now to the question whether Government servants can accept medical inspection in schools. Sir, I may say that Mr. Arasu was right in saying that they ought not to do so. There are a number of medical practitioners, almost starving. One medical practitioner actually came and told me ' I sit in my dispensary from seven in the morning till eight o'clock at night. I cannot get even one rupee a day.' That is the present position. It is because the Government servants take away the lion's share of practice. I don't blame Government servants; but what I request them to do is, for the sake of their suffering brothers, let them sacrifice a portion of their luxuries. Sir, the Government officer after passing the L.M.S. or the M.B.C.M. examination gets Rs. 200 a month. Afterwards if he becomes a lecturer in the Medical College, he gets another Rs. 75 or 80 in addition. He is well-placed. But his own brother—and brotherhood among medical men is much greater than among members of any other profession—is suffering, is starving. Should not those brothers in Government service sacrifice something, some of their luxuries, in order to safeguard the interests of their poor, suffering brother private medical practitioners? In that sense, I would appeal to the Surgeon-General to see that the Government servants do not take up both the payments—i.e., the pay from the Government and the pay from private bodies, authorities of the schools. In fact, although the hon. the Education Minister said that they were not two separate appointments, yet the fact is there that the school authorities pay the inspector, and the Government also pays him. Therefore, I request the hon. the Chief Minister to see that some restraint is placed upon these people in regard to their taking away some of the practice from the private practitioners.

" Another thing, Sir; that is, about honorary surgeonship, which is being introduced. I ask, Sir, the Minister, as Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar asked him, ' What is the policy of the Government in this direction ? ' Is the Minister going to try the system only in one or two hospitals, or is he going to slowly replace the said service by unpaid one. Of course some people may say ' if you replace the paid service by the unpaid service, where is efficiency to come from? ' I request the Minister and the Surgeon-General to see that private practice is made as efficient as possible in order to enable them to recruit from

:9th March 1932] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

among the private practitioners. Sir, there was one practitioner, he was an able man and he was recruited to the Government service—I nean Dr. Venkataswami of Chingleput hospital. Private practice is now deteriorating; if it is made as efficient as possible, certainly the Minister will have every opportunity of recruiting people into the Medical department from among the private practitioners.

" Moreover, Sir, they are now taking in honorary house physicians. They have recruited recently some house physicians, and I am extremely thankful to the Surgeon-General and to Mr. Sengodaiyan for having assisted a layman like myself in every way possible. I am extremely thankful that they are taking in house physicians on district and communal bases. In fact, whatever terms I wanted, they gave me. I would only request them, Sir, to give these house physicians as many opportunities as possible to handle difficult cases, and even to allow them to perform major operations with close supervision. If within a period of one year they make them as efficient as possible—each house surgeon in his own sphere is efficient—more as a surgeon, as an obstretician and as a physician—they can rather he drafted into the department as assistant surgeons. If there are no vacancies, as I earn for five years more there is no likelihood of any vacancy, they will become efficient private practitioners; I would even say give the honorary some separate beds to look after, say six beds each; let them have absolute control over those beds. So too must the case be with he maternity and the ophthalmic hospital house surgeons. So I should like to know what the Minister is going to do in this respect? He must make the private practice as efficient as possible, and see that private practice is not allowed at least in the case of assistant surgeons in the various Government hospitals. Why I say this is: people have always a glamour for those that are employed in hospitals. In that way, Sir, to my knowledge, some years ago, I know one Assistant Surgeon who was under a chief physician and another, under a chief surgeon, in General Hospital—and Dr. Koman—had practically all the private practice in Madras.

" Then, Sir, there were only very few private medical practitioners and so they were getting on well. Now you have got so many assistant surgeons and they get Rs. 200 per mensem as pay. On the other hand, those private medical practitioners who have passed out of the Madras Medical College—of course our Medical College is very efficient—have become rusty because they cannot get sufficient practice. I have no objection to district surgeons having private practice. I have no objection to experts like saintly Dr. Guruswami, Dr. Lakshmanaswami, Dr. Pai and Dr. Pandalai having consulting and regular practice, because their accumulated knowledge must be of utmost use to the public. What I want is that these assistant surgeons should be stopped from carrying on private practice. So, I request the hon. Minister to restrict private practice in the case of these people and as far as possible to create efficient medical profession outside. Here too, I appeal to those paid assistant surgeons, for the sake of their starving brethren, to forego this luxury. 4-30 p.m.

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [19th March 1932

" Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, said that in the Gosha Hospital, people are lying outside. I may say, this is not due to the mistake of the people. As a matter of fact, this is a direct insult to me as I am the President of the Advisory Board of that hospital. What really happens is, we have been remonstrating with Government to provide more space for the hospital. There is really no space for washing the clothes. Of course there was a proposal to extend the hospital, but on account of retrenchment they had to stop that. It is really a horrible sight to see pregnant women put in verandas for want of space and it is to be regretted. We have many times requested the Minister to help us and I must say to his credit that he did something—no doubt the Minister responds to our request—but the financial condition of the Province is such that the Retrenchment Committee has to lay its axe even here. I am afraid of telling anything here about the Retrenchment Committee, because there are so many champions who will take criticism calmly.

" Coming to the question of midwives, they are being trained well, I learn, in the hospitals. Because these Indian midwives are paid by Government, the authorities there think that these people ought to scratch up the flooring and do cleaning work and they are not given proper training in the profession for which they are intended, so that when they go out after training they are not efficient in their profession. It would be therefore better—if they are really to be of any use to the public at large—that when they are undergoing training, they are given only that work and that work alone for which they are intended and nothing else.

" As for the School of Indian Medicine, I am very glad to observe that the school is progressing very well under the able Principal Captain Srinivasamurti. But for him the school would not have come to this flourishing position. Not only allopathic system of medicine is taught there, but Unani, Siddha and other systems also are taught there. That is a place where people belonging to western systems, and other ancient systems come together and if only you nurse this school properly and guide the institution well, ere long the students that come out of that school will hold the field. Now, there is a F.I.M. diploma course there. That means that graduates and diploma-holders belonging to allopathic system can go there and get instruction in all the other three systems, viz., Unani, Siddha and Ayurvedic systems, so that a F.I.M. when he comes out of the school, will know all the systems as some of the allopathic medical men in northern India who know also Indian system of medicine. The Principal of this Indian Medical School is also training associates in L.I.M., he is also attempting to bring together the three ancient systems—Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha. I therefore hope the hon. Minister will give him all possible help.

" On this Siddha system, I have to say one word. The great Tamil scholars especially Muslim authors wrote books on this system in very high style and it is not possible for all people to understand. Tamil

19th March 1932] [Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar]

scholars with expert Siddha knowledge of medicines were brought together to compile text books in easy Tamil. So far, over Rs. 24,000 have been spent on the Text Book Committee. The cost for printing these books will only come to about Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000. It is just like a man who bought a horse for Rs. 600 and could not get six annas for purchasing a whip. Similarly, in this case, for want of some Rs. 2,000 or so, this work of printing is kept in abeyance. I therefore, request the hon. Minister to have the printing of the text books completed as early as possible.

" One word more and I finish. When I said about the Siddha system, I am sorry the hon. Minister mistook me. I may assure him that I am not pleading for any particular section, because I do not belong to this section or that section. The Siddha system consists of Telugus, Tamils, Brahmans, Non-Brahmans, Christians and Muslims. In fact my partiality is always with the Telugus, because I am more a Telugu than a Tamil, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Kumaraswami Reddiyar is more a Tamil than a Telugu. I may tell my hon. Friend, Mr. Sriramulu, that some of the Setti Balija students of that school were taken care of by me before he came into this Council. What I want, therefore, to impress is that all those who come out of this school must possess a knowledge not only in Allopathy but also in Unani, Ayurveda and Siddha as well. With these few words, I close. "

Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma :— " கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே ! இப்போது எங்குபார்த்தபோதிலும் பெண்மக்களுக்கு வைத்தியசாலைகள் வேண்டுமென்கின்ற ப்ரஸ்தாபம் அதிகமாய் இருக்கின்றது. பெண்கள் தங்கள் சரீர சௌக்கியத்தை கவனித்துக்கொள்ளபோதுமான சௌகரியம் இல்லாமல் பலர் இருக்கின்றனர். இராமநாதபுரம் ஜில்லா சிவகெங்கை தாலூகாவில் ஓர் பெண்கள் அஸ்பத்திரி தாலூகா போர்டு நடத்தி யிருந்ததை கவர்ன்மெண்ட் அஸ்பத்திரியோடு சேர்த்துவிட்டதால் அவ்வூர் பெண்கள் அது சௌகரியமாயில்லை என்று தாலூகா போர்டாருக்கு மனு செய்தார்கள். கவர்ன்மெண்டாருக்கும் அறிவித்துக்கொண்டார்கள். தாலூகா போர்டு மறுபடியும் பழயபடியே தனியாகவே வைத்துவிடுவதாக தீர்மானித்து ஜில்லா போர்டுக்கும் **Surgeon-General** அவர்களுக்கும் தெரிவித்துள்ளார்கள். இவ்விஷயமாக நானும் கனம் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்களை நேரில் பார்த்தும் கேள்விகள் மூலமாகக் கேட்டும் வந்தேன். **(April)** எப்ரல் முதலிலிருந்து பெண்கள் ஆஸ்பத்திரி வைத்துக்கொள்ளலாமென்று தாலூகா போர்டாருக்கு அனுமதி அளித்ததாகக் கூறினார். ஆயினும் இன்னும் தாலூகா போர்டார் ஆரம்பிக்க அனுமதி கிடைக்கவில்லையென்றும் வேறு சில தடைகள் உண்டாகியிருக்கிறதென்றும், அதனால் **Surgeon-General** உத்தரவு பிரப்பிக்கவில்லை என்றும் தெரிவதால் கூடிய சீக்கிரம் இவ்விஷயத்தில் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் அதிக கவனம்செலுத்தி பெண்களின் நன்மையைக் கருதி ஏற்பாடு செய்யக்கோருகிறேன்.

" வைத்திய பாடசாலைகளிலும் சித்த வைத்திய கலாசாலைகளிலும் படிக்கும் பெண்கள் தொகை சுமார் **181** இருக்கின்றது. பெண்கள் வைத்தியத் தொழில் கற்றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டியது மிக அவசியம். நம் நாட்டில் பெண்களுக்கு அது எவ்வளவோ பெரும் பிரயோஜனம். படிப்பவர்களாகிய பிரபு வீட்டுப்பெண்களுக்கும், ஏழைப்பெண்களுக்கும் தக்க உபகார சம்பளம் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் கொடுத்து வந்தார்கள். இப்போதேதோவெனில் யாவருக்கும் உபகாரச் சம்பளம் **50** ரூபாய் கொடுத்து வந்ததில் **25** ரூபாயாக குறைத்துவிடப்போகிறார்களென்று ஏழை மாணவர்கள் எல்லாம் மிகக் கஷ்டப்பட்டார்கள். பிறகு கனம் மந்திரி அவர்

[Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma] [19th March 1932

களும் Surgeon-General அவர்களும் தயை கூர்ந்து ஏழைப்பெண்களின் கஷ்டத்தை நிவர்த்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொண்டதன் பலனாக 50 ரூபாய்க்குப் பதிலாக 40 ரூபாய் கொடுப்பதாகத் தெரிவித்துள்ளார்கள். இது சந்தோஷமே. ஆயினும் உண்மையாக மிக ஏழைப்பெண்கள் சிலர் இருக்கிறார்கள் என்பதை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் ஏற்கனவே நன்குணர்ந்திருப்பார்கள். அவர்களின் விஷயமாக இரக்கங்காட்டி இன்னும் இரண்டொரு வருஷங்களுக்கு முன்போல் 50 ரூபாய் கொடுத்து உதவுவது நலமாயிருக்குமென்று தெரிவிக்கிறேன்.

" முனிஸிபாலிடிகளினால் பெண்களுக்கும் குழந்தைகளுக்கும் தனியாக வைத்தியம் செய்ய வைத்தியசாலைகள் ஏற்படுத்தியிருக்கிறார்கள். அங்கங்கே வேலை செய்யும் பெண் டாக்டர்களுக்கும் நர்ஸுகளுக்கும் சம்பள உயர்வையும் வீட்டு வாடகையும் நிறுத்திவிட்டார்கள். இது அவர்களுக்கு கஷ்டம்தான். அவர்கள் அநேகமாய் ஏழைப் பெண்களுக்குப் பேருபகாரிகளாய் இருக்கின்றார்கள். கர்ப்ப ஸ்திரீகளைப்பற்றி பிரஸவத்திற்கு முன்னதாகவே அவர்களை கவனித்தும், வேண்டிய புத்திமதிகளைச் சொல்லியும், பிரஸவகாலத்திற்குச் சென்று அவர்களுக்கு வேண்டிய உதவி ஒத்தாசை செய்து சுகப்படுத்துவதற்கு பிரயாசை எடுத்துக் கொள்கிறார்கள். எல்லா வேலைகளிலும் வைத்தியத் தொழில் மிக ஜாக்கிரதையாயும், அக்கரையாயும் செய்யவேண்டியதாய் இருப்பதால் அவர்களுக்குப் போதிய அளவு சம்பளமும் வேறு சில சௌகரியங்களும் செய்துகொடுக்க முனிஸிபாலிடியார் முன்வந்து யோசிக்கவேண்டும். கவர்ன்மெண்டாரும் இவ்விஷயத்தில் கவனம் செலுத்தவேண்டும். ஏனெனில் பணக்கஷ்டம் அதிகமிருக்கிறதென்று குறைத்தோமென்று சொல்லினும் இவ்விஷயத்தைப்பற்றி மறுபடியும் ஆலோசிக்க வேண்டுமென்று அறிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன்.

" முனிஸிபல் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் சில வியாதியஸ்தர்களுக்குத் தக்க மருந்துகள் இல்லை. கொடுப்பதும் இல்லை. டாக்டர்களைக் கேட்டால் எங்களுக்கு போதிய நல்ல மருந்துகள் supply செய்வதில்லை என்கிறார்கள். அதனால் நாங்கள் என்ன செய்வதென்று முறையிடுகிறார்கள். ஏழைகளைக் காப்பாற்றுவதற்காகத் தான் ஆஸ்பத்திரிகள் வைத்திருப்பதேயன்றி பிரபுக்களுக்கல்ல. அவைகளில் தக்க மருந்துகள் இல்லை என்றால் ஏழைகள் எவ்வளவு கஷ்டப்படுவார்கள் என்பதை கவர்ன்மெண்டார் யோசித்து தக்க உதவி செய்யவேண்டுகிறேன். மிக ஏழைப் பெண்களுக்கு அங்கங்கே ஆஸ்பத்திரிகளில் பிரஸவ கஷ்டத்தை நீக்க இரண்டொரு படுக்கைகள் (beds) வைத்து வைப்பது மிக உபகாரமாயிருக்கும்.

" இராயப்பேட்டையிலிருக்கும் இரும்பல் ஆஸ்பத்திரி (Tuberculosis Hospital) ஊருக்கு மத்தியிலிருப்பதால் பொது ஜனங்களுக்கும் நன்மையல்ல. வியாதியஸ்தர்களுக்கும் போதிய சுகமாய் இருக்கிறதென்றும் சொல்வதற்கில்லை. இருமல் வியாதியஸ்தர்களுக்கு பொதுவாய் நல்ல தாராளமான காற்றும், வெளிச்சமும், வெய்யிலின் வாடையும் அவசியம் என்று டாக்டர்கள் கூறுவதால் இப்போது இருக்கும் இடத்திலிருந்து அவ்வாஸ்பத்திரியை நகரத்திற்கு அடுத்தாற்போலிருக்கும் வேறு இடத்திற்கு மாற்றுதல் உசிதமாயிருக்குமென பொது ஜனங்கள் அபிப்பிராயப்படுவதால் இதைப்பற்றியும் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் யோசிப்பார்களென்று நம்புகின்றேன். "

* Capt. W. E. WINTER:—" Mr. President, Sir, we have heard of the saying that 'fools rush in where angels fear to tread.' After hearing all the eloquent speeches of hon. Members, I speak with some trepidation. I am not standing here as a Member of any community to speak on this cut motion. I am not standing here as the representative of any society; but I would like to speak in this House for the man-in-the-street. We have heard a lot about 'Nologies, Professors, Colonels and Surgeons and various systems of medicines; about the expenditure incurred on buildings, on equipment, and so forth, but we have not yet heard about the way in which the poorest of the inhabitants of the province are being treated in the hospitals. I sometimes wonder whether hospitals, etc., are provided only for purposes

19th March 1932] [Capt. W. E. Winter]

of making provision for appointments of certain officers and men, or whether they are intended for the need of the population. Poor patients go to the hospital for medical relief. They appear before the officer in charge of the hospital. The doctor asks them what they are suffering from. After hearing the case, he asks them to wait here or wait there. The same process is gone through in the case of others also and they are also asked to wait outside till it is time for the out-patient department to close. I do not think these patients go there merely to wait in the hospital until the time for the admission of patients is over. I have my personal experience in the affair. I once sent a man to a hospital with a letter. He underwent all the above difficulties and returned to me late; and when I asked him as to why he was late, he told me all that had happened.

"I shall now come to the question of expediting the treatment of serious cases in hospitals. I came across a lady doctor and asked her whether she could tell me about the number of cases she got in a Missionary Dispensary. She said that she was getting numerous cases from all around! They were men and women who had been to all sorts of hospitals and were unable to get any satisfactory treatment. The same story was repeated to me by another person, my own sister-in-law, who is connected with a Medical Mission. This lady said that the patients had told her that the hospitals could not accommodate them and that there appeared to be no place for them in these institutions. They stated that if they went to the hospitals they met with discourtesy which no human being could endure. Now, Sir, I ask you to enquire into the question and to give some consideration to these persons for whom all these things are primarily intended, so that they may receive not merely one pie out of the anna that they pay in the way of taxes, but have full value for their money.

"I have known cases where owing to want of prompt treatment patients have died. I shall give one instance. A man had to go to the hospital as he had lost his arm. He went to the hospital at 5 o'clock in the morning. He was after some time given an injection to quieten him. He was there until 8-30 a.m. when a more substantial and efficient man came to see him; but he was so exhausted by loss of blood that he died. I consulted a mill doctor later and he was of opinion that if this man had been treated earlier, he could have been saved. In another case where a man was suffering from gangrene, he was treated in the hospital for some time losing his toe and ankle and finally being discharged as incurable. A certain European lady offered to pay for his expenses and had him re-entertained when a further portion of his leg was amputated and the man is now back at work.

"I trust that the hon. the Chief Minister will give full consideration, firstly, to the treatment that these poor people receive when they approach the hospital for medical relief; secondly, that there should be expedition in dealing with urgent cases; and thirdly, that very serious cases as mentioned above should be immediately taken in hand and dealt with."

[19th March 1932

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Mr. President, Sir, a number of points were raised in the course of the debate and many of them were raised in the course of the debate last year also. For want of time, I shall confine myself to one or two major questions that have been raised during the course of the debate.

" It was pointed out that the present Medical establishments were very costly and that we could not get on with the present highly paid staff if really we want to extend further medical relief and make it more effective and economical. The hon. Member from Madras quoted figures to show that the expenditure during the last five years had increased by 50 per cent, while the convenience considered from the number of hospitals or from the number of beds or even from the income has not been as proportionate. I would only say this: that he evidently has not taken into consideration the fact that during the period for which he was comparing figures, there were a number of additions made in the shape of institutions which were taken over from the local bodies by the Government to be run by themselves—many of them being merely dispensaries—where out-patients were treated and very few of them being hospitals with beds. The scheme of subsidized rural dispensaries was introduced in that period and there are now about 470 dispensaries working and a major portion of them have been sanctioned from the year 1925–26 to 1931–32. In addition also there have been large building programmes in respect of Medical institutions which also have to be taken into consideration. If he had taken into consideration all these things, it will be clear that the increase of expenditure during the last five years is explained by the increased medical relief that has been given by the number of medical institutions taken over by the Government, by the number of new institutions opened in villages and by the improvements effected both in equipment and also in the building of various hospitals. I do not think I need detain the House any longer on details.

" I notice that the hon. Member from Madras has offered criticisms on so many things obtaining in the various hospitals and in reply have to say this: There is not much benefit either to himself or to this House springing in such cases just at the moment when we are discussing the cut motion. If there were any truth in the charges that have been made about the administration of the various hospitals it is up to him—and it is his duty—to have raised the point with the Surgeon-General to whom individual cases may be pointed out or by putting questions which would enable the Government to get the necessary information from the authorities concerned. Without doing either of these things, he merely says a number of things which I must say frankly I am not now able to deal with.

" Sir, the hon. Member further says that some private practitioners are not able to get even a pie of income even after six years after leaving College. I consider that a period of six years is quite enough for any man who is worth anything at all to make himself felt; and get a decent practice.

"Sir, I know a case of an old gentleman in my younger days who was allowed for the time being to practise—he was evidently not a licensed legal practitioner. He was old and practically unable to practise further; but yet with all that he was jealous that other people should come and interfere with his practice; and he was petitioning to the Collector that the Magistrate was abusing his power in allowing other people to practise in preference to himself. The fact was, Sir, even assuming all the others were kept out, he could not get any practice. He was past his age. My hon. Friend's complaint is just like the above complaint. I consider that it would be unfair to insist upon people to consult an inefficient doctor simply because even after having left his college so long ago he is not able to earn anything. As I said, it is a fairly long period in which any man of substance could make himself felt.

"As regards the statement that private practitioners do not have 5 p.m. sufficient work I may say Madras is a sufficiently big place and it can provide work for medical men having capacity, and so there is not much force in saying that on account of this these people could not make themselves efficient doctors. However, that applies only to a portion of a class.

"Then, much stress was laid on the question of private practice by those doctors who are paid by Government for their service in hospitals—as their private practice affects to a certain extent the practice of private practitioners. Now, on that question I quite sympathize with them. But I must say that many of these people who are entertained in Government service are entitled to private practice under the sections of the Medical Code, and under section 140 of the same Code certain medical officers are debarred from private practice and their activities have been restricted to consulting practice in certain cases and to laboratory practice in other cases. The income from private practice has been taken into account in fixing the scales of pay of medical officers generally and it will be necessary to sanction higher scales of pay if there is to be a wholesale restriction of private practice to the service as a whole. Such a course will seem inadvisable as the services of capable Government doctors will be denied to those who may not desire to seek admission to the hospital. Further, if we are to debar them from private practice, then we have to give them some compensatory allowance for that. The question as to what extent Government should debar Government medical officers from having private practice was considered several times before. It was suggested that private practice may be prohibited at least in the case of officers who had also teaching work in medical colleges and schools. It was estimated that Government will have to pay more than Rs. 60,000 for such officers only as compensation for loss of private practice. If such prohibition should be extended to the Medical Service as a whole, then the compensation will become so much that in the present financial stringency it is not possible to consider. But with regard to these persons who will be recruited hereafter the question may be considered at the time of fixing the salary of future recruits."

[19th March 1932

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" What about experts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is urged that everybody employed in Government hospitals should be debarred from private practice. For, the hon. Member will remember that objection was raised to this on the ground that it affected the practice of private practitioners.

" Then, Sir, my friend, Mr. Arasu, quoted my answers given in reply to various interpellations made on the floor of this House with regard to the running of Nursing Homes. Perhaps he has in view the case of a personal friend of his who is affected by this. On this matter I have on previous occasions tried to explain the real situation, and now I shall quote the opinion of Major-General Hutchinson in this matter, and from this it will be found how far Government medical officers are right in running a private nursing home. This is what he says:

'I may mention for the information of Government that many practitioners in every country have in connexion with their ordinary consulting rooms a dispensary for dispensing medicines to their own patients. There is no objection to this: objection arises when patients of other practitioners or on their own account can get their medicines in this dispensary: it then becomes a public shop. Any doctor can, if he so chooses, keep a house in which he can accommodate his own patients—he can only succeed in his enterprise if his own patients demand such accommodation. If, as in the case of the dispensary, other medical men are permitted to send their patients and treat them, then the private home becomes a *public* nursing home like the Lady Willingdon Nursing Home in Mount Road, an entirely different matter.'

" Thus, it will be seen that the private nursing home is intended to accommodate the private patients of the doctor and the dispensary is intended to supply the medicines of those patients and not for any other persons. Now the nursing home run by the Second Surgeon, General Hospital, is a private nursing home intended for his private patients and therefore Government see no objection in that. In this matter the opinion of Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar is entitled to more weight as he is a medical practitioner himself and he is of opinion that there is no objection in such a private nursing home being run. After all, Sir, we must remember this important fact that by allowing such private nursing homes we are rendering the services of our best medical men available to all persons, as it is an admitted fact that very few people only—in fact only the poor—avail themselves of their services in the hospitals. So, the prohibition of private practice of these men can be done only when it is positively and absolutely necessary in the interests of private practitioners. When the Head of the Medical department, the Surgeon-General has expressed his opinion on the matter, I do hope henceforth laymen like Mr. Arasu will not indulge themselves in such statements. Perhaps, Mr. Arasu may have great knowledge on this subject, I do not deny that, but after all he is only a layman, and when his opinion is pitched against the opinion of an expert, who has had much more experience than Mr. Arasu, then undoubtedly the opinion of the expert must prevail, and therefore we cannot brush aside the opinion of the Surgeon-General.

19th March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

"Then, as to the point about honoraries, there is a feeling abroad that if more honoraries are appointed, the cost of the hospitals will diminish. If that is the impression under which hon. Members are advocating the system, I may say you will not succeed very much in your expectations. Because honoraries are appointed from a very different point of view. They are first taken into hospitals as supernumeraries with a view to provide private practitioners an opportunity of getting into touch with the clinical materials and up-to-date apparatus in the hospitals, so that they might utilize the benefit of this experience to the advantage of the public. These supernumeraries are put in charge of certain beds, and thus the existing number of beds is divided between the paid men and the honorary men. Therefore you will see there is a limit to which such honoraries can be employed, namely the number of beds and the number of patients available. So you cannot employ any number of honorary men where there are for example, 11 beds but only 3 patients. So that with regard to the mufassal the extension of the system of honorary men will to a large extent depend on the provision and the facilities obtaining there. First of all there should be a sufficient number of private practitioners there; then they must be willing to serve in the hospitals; then there must be a sufficient number of beds and the number of patients should be sufficiently large in number. The system of honoraries may be attractive in Madras and perhaps so in some other places. But I have records to show that we have so far received applications for only 47 hospitals, while for 103 other hospitals no practitioners applied at all agreeing to serve as honoraries. Now on the point how far this system is successful I will read a passage from a book entitled 'Hospital Organization and Management' by Mr. Stone. From his experience in hospitals where these honoraries were trained, this is what the author says:

'The honorary staff, although not paid for their services, obtain a valuable return in the form of medical and surgical experience, and the enhanced reputation which accrues to a member of the visiting staff of a great hospital. This applies *chiefly*, if not only, to hospitals in large centres where positions on the staff are indeed valuable to a certain number of the holders. The advantages, repute and profit said to attach to these appointments are, however, much exaggerated; the value is potential and depends almost entirely on the personality of the holder. The appointment is indeed his opportunity.'

"So that, in an advanced country like England, it has been found that the system can work only in large centres, where there is plenty of medical practitioners and plenty of scope for them. Therefore the extension of the system of honoraries to rural districts depends on the number of men available, the number of beds provided for in these hospitals and the prospect of private practice.

"Then, Sir, there is another aspect of this problem. There is an impression that the whole hospital Government staff could be replaced by these honorary men. I should submit that such an idea is completely erroneous. For, to whatever extent the system may be introduced, there must be a minimum of paid doctors maintained. You cannot put honorary men in charge of the hospital materials, in charge

of the apparatus and the property as a whole. If you want the hospitals to be run efficiently, there should be a proper control over the institution. Unless there is a proper control over the establishment, there cannot prevail what is called the co-ordination of work. For example, there is a separate establishment of nurses; they are put under the charge of a matron; you cannot expect that to be transferred into non-official hands. All that you can expect to be done is with reference to the physicians, surgeons and possibly some special departments,—these can be substituted by honorary men, leaving the general administrative control to paid men. Thus, it will be seen that what the system contemplates is not mere and wholesale substitution but substitution in certain respects only, the Government maintaining a certain number of paid officers. As I said before, we have already replaced an Assistant Surgeon in the Headquarters Hospital, Madura, by an honorary officer. This was done in April last. And so far as Madras is concerned, we have retained only the Superintendent, an Assistant Surgeon and a Sub-Assistant Surgeon and have replaced all other paid staff by appointing honoraries in the Royapetta Hospital. This will come into force from 1st April 1932 and in the light of experience gained from these appointments the further extension of the system will be considered. After all, Sir, the system was begun in the City in 1923 and it was extended to the hospitals in the mufassal in 1929. The beginning of the system was made by appointing honoraries as supernumeraries in the hospitals in the City.

5 "It was extended in 1929 to the hospitals in the mufassal also as supernumeraries and as I said in a very large number of hospitals in the mufassal these men were appointed. I may also state that the Government are in sympathy with the system of the substitution of paid medical men by honorary medical men wherever possible and as an earnest of that, they have already ordered it to be tried in the Royapetta Hospital. That system must be given a fair trial and we must know how many hospitals there are where we could try the same.

"I need not refer to the statement made by the hon. Member for the City of Madras that the honorary men selected for Royapetta Hospital are fifth rate men. I can only say that he is not the proper judge to know what the medical men are. He is not the proper person whose opinion any Government would be well-advised to accept.

"Then with regard to retrenchment, my hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, pointed out that there were among the Indian Medical Department men more in number than the department was entitled to. I understand that there are two in excess and they are being given leave.

"I am sorry, Sir, I have taken up more time than I intended. I have also taken more time than is possible under the rules. I therefore beg your permission, Sir, to stop here craving leave of the House to excuse me for not being able to answer the other points referred to by various hon. Members from the different sections of the House."

19th March 1932]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I think my hon. Friend has replied to many points and I think the reply is satisfactory. I do not agree with all that he said; nor can I expect him in the time available to cover all the points. All the same, I must say that I would like to have a vindication from him as to the general Medical policy. It apparently is a big subject and we have been urging it all the time. We shall wait for a year and see. (Laughter.) In view of the many points raised, I do not see any object in pressing the motion. I therefore withdraw it."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XIX, Medical—Transferred, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,14,000, was put and carried and the Grant was made.

The House then rose for the day, to meet again at 11 of the clock on Monday the 21st instant.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Monday, the 21st March 1932

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT :

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Davis, M.B.E., Mr. J. A.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Indrayya, Mr. C.
Jagannadha Raju, Rao Bahadur G.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur, P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnamurti, Rao Sahib D.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Lakshmana Reddi, Mr. G.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nadimuthu Pillai, Mr. A. Pl. N. V.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Satyanarayana Choudari, Mr. C.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Subrahmanyam Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.

PRESENT:—*cont.*

Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Vedachala Mudaliyar, Mr. M.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Education

Failure of the scheme of compulsory education in the Saidapet taluk.

* 1064 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. RAJAGOPALA PILLAI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the compulsory elementary education introduced in the Saidapet taluk proved a thorough failure;

(*b*) if so, what it is due to;

(*c*) whether the admission of the Adi-Dravida pupils into the caste schools in the Saidapet taluk resulted in the complete boycott of the Adi-Dravida population;

(*d*) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to provide other facilities for the education of the Adi-Dravida children; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that several Labour department schools in the taluk were closed since June 1931?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) Yes; in a few places.

(*d*) The Government have recently sanctioned a revised scheme of compulsion prepared by the Taluk Board, Saidapet, limiting compulsion to areas where caste opposition to the admission of Adi-Dravida pupils is not likely to be strong. As the opening of separate schools for Adi-Dravida pupils is not in accordance with the declared policy of Government, instructions have been issued to inspecting officers to the effect that endeavours should be made to enlist the co-operation of local bodies and of parents of caste pupils in the matter of overcoming caste opposition to the admission of pupils of the depressed classes into common schools.

(*e*) Twenty-eight labour schools have been closed.

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"With reference to (*a*), may I know in what respects it did not come up to expectations?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"In several ways; it is not possible for me to go into them in detail. Th main objection was to the admission of Adi-Dravida pupils; cast prejudice was very strong in some places; and in that way it wa failure."

21st March 1932]

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" If the Government is going to placate the conservative feeling of the people which would not allow Adi-Dravidas to be admitted to the ordinary schools, then why will not Government open separate schools? In one breath they say it is the declared policy of the Government and in another breath they say that conservative feeling is very strong against the admission of Adi-Dravida pupils."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" It is certainly not the policy of the Government to placate such conservative opinion. It is to overcome that feeling and make it disappear, that we do not open separate schools."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know the reason for closing several of the Labour schools? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" That was dealt with by the Labour department."

Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" May I know whether there are any schools other than the schools closed by the Labour department in that area? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" What provision is Government making for the education of the Adi-Dravida boys when it finds that caste Hindus will not allow them to be admitted into the ordinary schools and Government will not compel them to admit such pupils, but on the other hand the Government will not also open separate schools? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Though it is an ideal not to have any separate schools, as a matter of fact we have separate schools in many places. Government have not abolished them, but they are against the extension of such schools."

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" With reference to clause (e), may I know what arrangement is the Government going to make for the education of these pupils? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Notice."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Till such time as the Government overcome the opposition of the caste people, will the Government continue to open separate schools for Adi-Dravidas? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" At present it is not possible on account of the financial stringency."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know how Government is going to provide for the pupils affected by the abolition of the 28 schools? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" As I said, endeavours are being made to induce the managements to admit all the Adi-Dravida pupils in their schools; wherever such endeavours have failed, separate schools are being held; they are in existence now."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister if he is satisfied with the present provision made for the education of the Adi-Dravidas in this taluk? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I should certainly like to have more."

Fisheries

Deterioration of fisheries in West Coast.

* 1065 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the deterioration in the fishing on the West Coast is continuing; and

(*b*) whether any steps have been taken to help the fishing community in Malabar and South Kanara?

A.—(*a*) Yes, but the condition in general is more satisfactory than last year except in the southern parts of the Ponnani taluk.

(*b*) In the southern parts of Ponnani taluk the condition of fishing is not good. The Malabar District Relief Fund is arranging to advance Rs. 150 immediately for the relief of the fishermen. Other measures are under the consideration of the Collector of Malabar.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*a*), may I know whether it is based on definite information received by the Government regarding the quantity of fish cured or the number o guano factories working on the West Coast? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" It is o information supplied by the Director of Fisheries we have give this answer."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I kno if the deterioration which is admitted is due to the occurrence of shoa and, if so, what do the Government propose to do in the matter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" It mainly due to the fact that sardines have not made their appea ance for some years past on the West Coast."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I kn whether the Fisheries department who have investigated this quest have come to any definite conclusion? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" No c clusive decisions have been arrived at."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" With reference to the d rioration spoken of, was it with reference to quality or quantity? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Botl quality and quantity."

21st March 1932]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know what exactly in their opinion is the reason for the non-occurrence of sardines on the West Coast? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Notice."

Industries

Buy Indian League.

* 1066 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state whether there is any objection to the Industries Department of Government extending its co-operation to the " Buy Indian League " ?

A.—No.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government will consider the desirability of laying the correspondence in regard to this on the table? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" I cannot say anything at present. That is a question which I cannot deal with by myself."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Will it not be difficult sometimes to distinguish the activities of the ' Buy Indian League ' from those of the boycott societies . . .? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" Not in the Industries Department."

Medical Administration

Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha dispensaries in South Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore.

* 1067 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha dispensaries now working in the districts of South Arcot, Salem and Coimbatore and the places where they are located;

(*b*) how many of them are maintained by Government and how many are subsidized by Government; and

(*c*) what the amount of annual subsidy paid to the local boards and municipalities which are maintaining these dispensaries in each case is?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) A statement[a] showing the information available with the Government is laid on the table.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" I find there are only 19 dispensaries where men having these qualifications have been employed and they are all only in three districts of the Province. May I know whether there are not men available for employment in other districts? "

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 675 infra.

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The question is with reference to the three districts only."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Out of the 19, there are only three who hold the Unani qualification. May I know why such a small number is appointed? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The local bodies concerned appoint such persons as they think fit. Probably they had more men qualified in the Ayurvedic system applying."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" As to the nature of the system to be adopted, may I know whether it is purely left to the local bodies; what is the Government's policy in this matter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is the local bodies who pay and they decide what kind of doctors they will have; the Government do not say that only so many of this system or so many of the other should be appointed."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether Government will not interfere with any district which has dispensaries only in indigenous systems? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I do not think they can interfere."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether there is any scheme for standardization of these indigenous systems? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Notice, Sir."

Land Revenue Administration

Punishment of village headmen.

* 1068 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received the information called for by him as stated in answer to question No. 750 answered on the 27th of January 1932;

(*b*) if so, whether the same will be placed on the table with the orders passed by the Government, if any;

(*c*) when the fines imposed in May 1931 were collected and what the reason was for the delay;

(*d*) whether the rules and instructions require only the karnams to complete the village cash accounts and not the village munsif;

(*e*) if so, why were the village headmen punished for the default and negligence of karnams; and

(*f*) what action the Government propose to take to rectify the irregularity?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The information [a] is given in the appendix. No orders have been passed by the Government.

(*c*) The Government have not the information.

(*d*) The hon. Member is referred to the "Instructions for closing the village cash accounts . . ." on pages 139-140 of the "Revised Forms of Village Accounts."

(*e*) & (*f*) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested. The village headmen were mostly punished for bad collection work.

Prisons and Prisoners

Transfer of Durga Bai from Vellore Jail to Madura Jail.

* 1069 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Sreemati Durga Bai has been transferred from Vellore jail to the jail in Madura;

(*b*) if this is so, what the reasons are for doing so; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that she is given solitary confinement?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The information has been called for.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"The Government say that information has been called for. May I know if this lady is still in the Vellore Jail?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"It is with reference to that that information has been called for."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"If she is not in Vellore Jail, may I know whether Government will see that she is brought back to the Vellore Jail which is intended for ladies?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That is a hypothetical question."

Law and Order—General

Instructions issued by the Inspector-General of Police regarding the use of force against picketers.

* 1070 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(*a*) to lay on the table of this House copies of the instructions sent by the Inspector-General of Police or the Government in pursuance of which the Press Communqué, dated 23rd January 1932 was issued by the Local Government stating among others that it is demoralizing to the young men who picket, to arrest them and that it is more practical to use force against them, etc.;

(*b*) to state whether the said instructions in pursuance of which the said Press Communiqué was issued are still in force or whether they have been cancelled; and

(*c*) what further action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

[21st March 1932

A.—(*a*) *&* (*b*) Press Communiqués are not instructions for the guidance of Government officers. The Press Communiqué of 23rd January contained a general statement of the policy of the Government in regard to picketing couched in popular language suitable for general reading. The phrase 'forcible dispersal of picketers' means forcible dispersal in accordance with the law, the degree of force necessary for dispersal depending on the circumstances of each case. Detailed instructions were issued to District Magistrates in regard to the picketers on January 15th and are still in force. An extract[a] from these instructions is annexed.

(*c*) None.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know as to whether the Inspector-General of Police did not issue orders to the Collectors and District Magistrates to make effective use of force and lathi against picketers and that arrest and imprisonment should be had recourse to only in the last instance?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Those instructions were given in accordance with the instructions issued by the Government. We have sent a copy of our instructions to the Inspector-General so that he might issue instructions in accordance with that."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In answer to (*a*) and (*b*), the Government say that 'Press Communiqués are not instructions for the guidance of Government officers.' May I know whether it is meant that Police are not expected to follow the principle involved in the Press Communiqués?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir. They need not follow these Press Communiqués."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Has the Government been noticing that in view of this Press Communiqué, the Police have been following quite a different line altogether from what is contained in the Press Communiqué?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I am not aware of it; if any specific instance is brought to my notice I will enquire."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"With reference to the Press Communiqué of 23rd January 1932, may I know as to whether the Press Communiqué gives the go-by to all legal methods and advises only recourse to force?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"As I already said, it is not a legal exposition of the policy of the Government. It is only couched in popular language. The instructions we have given are standing orders."

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 677 infra.

21st March 1932]

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Is it the policy of the Government that, when unlawful assemblies are to be dispersed, lathis are to be used with all the force the users are capable of and that the blows should be aimed at the neck and on the face?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The hon. Member may read the instructions; they are there."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" In view of the divergence of opinion that may arise on reading the extract printed here and the Press Communiqué issued, and of the likelihood of people being misled in consequence, will Government be pleased to issue instructions not to use force where arrest and prosecution can be had recourse to?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" We have issued enough instructions, and they are contained in our letters to the District Magistrates. No further instructions are necessary."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I take it that the instructions as they stand at present say that force should be used only when necessary in the case of dispersal of unlawful assemblies of five persons and more?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The policy is stated there in the paper."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" May I take it that so far as the Government's instructions are concerned, those instructions are found in this extract and there are no other instructions in force?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" There are many such instructions."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" If the instructions are that isolated picketers should be dealt with by arrest and prosecution, why was one Ramachandran beaten, kicked with boots and taken to the hospital at Cuddalore where he is still lying and in a precarius condition?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Notice, Sir."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" I want to know whether the Government has issued definite instructions that in no case force should be used by the Police against an assembly which consists of less than five?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Definite instructions are here."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" In view of the fact that several instances have been brought to the notice of the Government that assemblies of less than five persons have been forcibly dealt with, would the Government repeat its instructions in a clearer language so that they receive the attention of the District Magistrates?"

-16 p. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do *not* think there is any necessity at all for doing that. The District Magistrates have got the standing instructions of the Government. They cannot disobey them."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" In view of the fact that it has been brought to the notice of the hon. the Home Member both in this House and in private that notwithstanding the instructions of the Government the Police throughout the Province are going on beating the picketers mercilessly, what action does the Government propose to take? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" It is incorrect, Sir, to say that throughout the Province the Police are beating mercilessly. I do not believe it."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, in view of the fact that the Government in answer to Question No. 1070 have had to write a commentary on their own Communiquè where they say that forcible dispersal of picketers means forcible dispersal in accordance with the law and the degree of force would depend on the circumstances of each case, which means that the Communiquè and the instructions are not clear, will the Government be pleased to issue definite instructions to the Police not to use force where the assembly consists of less than five persons? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Police and the Magistrates have nothing to do with the Communiqué; it is for popular consumption. The Police have their own instructions according to which they have to act."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I ask whether the Inspector-General of Police has not in January 1932 issued instructions contrary to Government instructions? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do not think he has issued any instructions at variance with the Government instructions."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to what appeared in the *Times of India* some time back that the Police do not seem to have understood the instructions of the Government regarding the dispersal of picketers by using force? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Newspapers say so many things."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" Has it ever been brought to the notice of the Government that the Police in any case used force on an assembly of less than five persons and, if so, what action have the Government taken? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Government's attention was not drawn to any such case. I have already explained the position the other day in my speech."

21st March 1932]

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Was not one doctor assaulted at Narasapur? It is a fresh case and we have all read the report in the papers."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is a statement which appeared in the papers. Moreover the case is *sub judice* now."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that the *Times of India* is not a nationalist or anti-Government paper, will not the Government place any reliance on what it states?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not know whether it is anti-Government or pro-Government."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, there is a statement in the appendix to Question No. 1071 where the Government say:

'*The two individuals in question were found selling packets of contraband* salt. They were ordered to go away but persisted in offering the salt for sale *whereupon an attempt was made to disperse them by force.*'

"Here is a specific instance where Government admit that the Police used force on two picketers selling contraband salt. May I ask the Government how they reconcile this admission with their own instructions?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They are not against the Government instructions."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the various questions asked on the floor of the House, may I ask the hon. the Home Member whether he will not now issue instructions saying that force should not be used when an assembly consists of less than five persons?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"As I have said, I have issued sufficient instructions; but if the House wants me, I will consider whether any further instructions are necessary."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—"Have there been no instances where the Police have used force on assemblies consisting of less than five persons?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"There is no use of asking a general question like that."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the fact that the Police and the Magistrates have not understood that the Government do not expect them to act on the Press Communiqué but only on the instructions issued to them, will the Government draw the attention of the Police and the District Magistrates to this fact?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"It is not necessary. They have common sense enough to know it is not their business to follow the Press Communiqué."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" If instructions were issued so early as 15th January 1932 to arrest and prosecute individual picketers, why was it that so recently as 12th March 1932 a volunteer by name Chandrasekaran was beaten so badly that he vomited blood and is lying in a precarious condition in the hospital? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" That is what my hon. Friend says. Whether it is true or not, has to be verified."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Will the hon. the Home Member call for a report of the circumstances under which such a serious injury was caused to the volunteer? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I shall consider the suggestion."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the instructions at present with regard to assemblies of less than five persons are that they should only be arrested and not beaten? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The instructions are there in the paper; the hon. Member may read it."

Mr. T. C. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR:—" Is there any serious objection to the attention of the Police and the Magistrates being drawn to the fact that the Press Communiqué was intended only for the public consumption and not for the Police and the Magistrates? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I do not think it is necessary."

Alleged beating of two volunteers in the Police lock-up at Masulipatam on 21st February 1932.

* 1071 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the beating on the 21st February 1932 by the Police in the Police lock-up at Masulipatam, of two volunteers, Messrs. Puchiraju Krishna Rao and Poranki Sastriraju;

(*b*) whether the Government have called for a report; and

(*c*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Press Communiqué No. 15, dated the 7th March 1932, extract[a] from which is attached.

(*c*) None.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask who was the officer who conducted the enquiry and told the Government that nothing of the kind took place? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The District Magistrate."

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on page 677 *infra*.

21st March 1932]

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know if force was used on these two volunteers because the two volunteers were considered to constitute an unlawful assembly?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Nobody said they constituted an unlawful assembly. They wanted to break the Salt law and the Police broke that assembly by force."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Is a gathering of two persons an unlawful assembly?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir. Force does not mean they were beaten by lathis or canes. Simply pushing them also would come under force."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"The Government has definitely said that no force should be applied to the dispersal of assemblies of less than five persons. In this case there were only two persons and the Government admit that force was used. May I know the reason why?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They wanted to commit some offence. Force does not mean beating with lathis or canes. They were probably pushed and, since they were not amenable to force, they were arrested."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"In view of the numerous statements made in courts to the effect that prisoners in the lock-up are beaten by the Police, will the Government institute an enquiry into the matter? There was the Trichinopoly case and here is this case. Will the Government see that the prisoners are not beaten in the lock-up?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Prisoners are not beaten in the lock-up. If any specific instance is brought to my notice, I shall ask the District Magistrate to make enquiries."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"What was the nature of the force used against these two volunteers—whether they were simply pushed or given lathi blows?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They were not given lathi blows."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Sir, here is a case where Messrs. Srinivasan and Chandrasekaran and another have been beaten by the Police at the Kallakurichi sub-station. May I know what were the circumstances under which they were beaten in the lock-up?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Notice of the question, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"About the nature of the force used and the injuries received by the two persons

[21st March 1932

who are said to have been pushed, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to read some extracts from the report of the District Magistrate so that we can see the nature of the force used? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I have no further information to give on the point."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to call for a report as to the circumstances in which these three persons were beaten in the lock-up, what their condition is at present and whether they are in the hospital or outside the hospital? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I am prepared to consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I ask whether the selling of contraband salt by two persons can be prevented by force ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I have already answered that question."

Alleged beating of Kanhambu Adiyodi and P. Rama by the Reserve Police, South Kanara, on 2nd March 1932.

* 1072 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two volunteers Kunhambu Adiyodi and P. Rama were mercilessly beaten by the Reserve Police in Kanhangad (South Kanara) on 2nd March 1932 at about 10-30 a.m. for going along the street with a national flag in hand;

(*b*) if so, how many blows were given to them and what the number and nature of the injuries that were inflicted on them were; and whether they were beaten after they fell down unconscious and then dragged on the road ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that after beating them the Police left them uncared for and that one Dr. N. Ganesha Pai at about 1 p.m. took them to the Local Fund Hospital for treatment;

(*d*) whether the accident register maintained in the hospital mentions the injuries ; if so, what their number and nature are ;

(*e*) whether the Government have received a complaint regarding the same from Dr. N. Ganesha Pai ; if so, what action has been taken on the same ;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the said Dr. N. Ganesha Pai has sent to the hon. the Home Member a certificate showing that Kunhambu Adiyodi had received 56 injuries and P. Rama 21 injuries ; if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House together with his letter ; and

(*g*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take in the matter ?

21st March 1932]

A.—(*a*) *to* (*g*) The Government have no information but have called for a report in connexion with Dr. Pai's letter referred to in clause (*e*) of the question. No certificate as mentioned in clause (*f*) was sent with the letter.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*f*) may I ask whether Dr. Pai has not sent a copy of the list of injuries attended to by the officer in charge of the Local Fund Hospital along with his letter? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" As far as I know, no certificate showing the injuries received has been sent along with the letter of Dr. Pai. We are making enquiries into the matter."

Mr U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Will the hon. the Home Member take a copy of the certificate issued by the doctor in charge of the Local Fund dispensary and kindly enquire into the matter? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Will the hon. the Home Member read the letter of Dr. Pai before this House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not want to answer any such question."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Will the Government be pleased to issue instructions to the hospital authorities to give copies of wound certificates when applied for? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I may draw the attention of my hon. Friend to the statement made by the hon. the Chief Minister the other day with regard to the policy of the Government on the question of giving copies of pages from the Hospital Accident Register."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I request your protection, Sir, on this point? Is the hon. Home Member right in saying that he will not answer questions like that ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" The hon. Member asked me : will you read it? I thought it was rather insulting to a Member of Government to ask him to read a letter about which he is answering questions."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" In view of various complaints that the hospital authorities do not give a copy of the wound certificates when applied for by the persons concerned, will the Government issue necessary instructions to the hospital authorities to give such certificates, after payment of a fee, if necessary? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I shall consider the suggestion."

[21st March 1932

Alleged Police excesses on innocent persons in Gudivada.

* 1073 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether Kodali Anjaneyulu, Vollabhaneni Ramabrahmam and Venkatasubba Rao were beaten with lathis one night at 8 p.m. by the Police of Gudivada, while they were resting in Gonuguntla Venkatasubrahmanyam's house in Gudivada, and if so, why?

A.—No. The facts of the incident which the hon. Member appears to have in mind are as follows:—

The Subdivisional Magistrate of Gudivada and the Inspector of Police on returning to Gudivada with a party of the Reserve on 11th January 1932 at about 6-30 p.m., found that about 8 persons had arrived at Gudivada by car and were arranging a meeting in contravention of a prohibitory order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code. They were declared an unlawful assembly and ordered to disperse and, failing to do so, were forcibly dispersed. If the persons mentioned received any blows it was during the course of the dispersal of this unlawful assembly; they were not beaten, while resting in Gonuguntla Venkatasubrahmanyam's house in Gudivada.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In the case of these people who are said to have formed an assembly of eight persons, why were they not arrested? Did they resist arrest? Why was force used on them; why were they beaten ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" That is a point to be decided by the authorities on the spot. I suppose they thought that arrest was not necessary. If they thought that there was likely to be breach of the peace and that forcible dispersal was the right method, they are entitled to do so."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" But the Police have got the right to arrest. They did not try to arrest them nor did they resist arrest. In that case may I ask why they were beaten? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have nothing to add to what I have already said."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Was Mr. Venkatasubramaniam in whose house violence was used, examined before the repor was sent to the Government? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Notice of the question, Sir."

21st March 1932]

Alleged arrest and conviction of Mr. M. Ramakotayya for showing hospitality to Congress people.

* 1074 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether on or about the 17th January 1932 Mikkilineni Ramakotayya was arrested for showing hospitality to Congress people and for setting up a national flag and subsequently sentenced under sections 188 and 145 to one year's rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 100, and whether before or after the arrest he was given lathi blows in Pedda Mallali, and if so, why?

A.—The only information available with the Government is that M. Ramakotayya was convicted by the Special Third Class Magistrate, Gudivada, on 19th January 1932 under section 117, Indian Penal Code, read with section 157, Indian Penal Code. The Government have called for further details.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Have the Police been authorized or instructed by the Government to order that bus owners should not carry khaddar-clad passengers or people who may be supposed to be moving about in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Government have given no such instructions."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" What is the policy of the Government in regard to showing hospitality to Congressmen; is giving food to them an offence ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Babadur:—" Notice of the question, Sir."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Why were the bus-drivers asked by the Inspector of Police not to take the persons injured by the Police outrages at Tirukkoyilur? Why were tickets refused to them ? "

The hon. the President:—" I do not think the question arises out of the original question."

Mr. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar:—" In view of the large number of instances which are said to frequently occur of showing hospitality to Congressmen, will the Government be pleased to state both in the interests of the public and the Police what they consider to be objectionable in showing hospitality to Congress people ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Notice of the question, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the general belief among the public that, in spite of whatever instructions Government might have issued, the Police are still acting not in accordance with the instructions said to have been issued but entirely at variance with them, will Government be pleased to hold an independent enquiry into a selected number of cases so as to allay public dissatisfaction in the country ? "

[21st March 1932

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"No, Sir. It is not necessary. Whenever any case of Police excess is brought to the notice of the Government, they call for a report from the District Magistrate. I do not think anything further is necessary."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government be pleased to take notice of the question put by myself and by Mr. Srinivasa Ayyangar and issue a Press Communiqué as soon as possible without waiting for the next meeting of the Council?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

Alleged Police excesses on civil resisters at Robertsonpeta, Kistna district.

* 1075 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether Rami Reddi, Subba Reddi and two others of Kaja, which is about ten miles from Masulipatam, were arrested for taking part in a meeting, and afterwards instead of being proceeded against in a court of law, were beaten with lathis in the Robertsonpeta lock-up, and whether Subba Reddi received an injury on the head as the result of the beating?

A.—The Government have no information and have called for it.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member—not only in this case but in several other cases there are allegations of ill-treatment of prisoners in the lock-up—to call for reports?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"We must first of all know that there have been Police excesses. If any instance of Police excess is brought to the notice of the Government, I am prepared to call for a report."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—"Why have not the Government called for the information by telegram?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"It is not necessary to call for the information by telegram."

10 Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the fact that the District Magistrate is responsible for the preservation of law and order and for putting down the Civil Disobedience Movement, does the hon. Member think that the best interests of the Government will be served by the same officer making enquiries?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"The District Magistrate has not only to see that the Civil Disobedience Movement is put down, but also that the Police perform their duties properly in accordance with the instructions issued. It is the duty of the District Magistrate to report to the Government if the Police go wrong."

21st March 1932]

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" The question was given notice of on the 29th February and the answer was received only on the 17th March 1932. May I ask why there was so much delay ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I cannot say; I have called for the information."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Is the hon. Member in a position to deny that another volunteer, named Chandrasekharan, with 3 inches long wound is lying in the Cuddalore Hospital on account of having been beaten in the lock-up in Kallakurchi."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The original question relates to the Kistna district."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" My question relates to the same category of people as are being beaten in the lock-up."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I enquire whether the hon. Member will explain the delay in answering this question ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Government have called for the information; after making necessary enquiries, the District Magistrate will send the report."

Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" May I know what is the time within which information on such matters, is expected ? What is the minimum and maximum time ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" There is no such minimum or maximum time."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state whether instructions have been issued to the Medical Officers not to grant certificates in cases of this description ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have answered that question; I do not think there are any such instructions."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—" May I ask whether the hon. Member has read yesterday's *Hindu* in which it is stated that the Narasapur Medical Officer refused to give certificates to the injured people ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Notice of the question, Sir."

[*Note*.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ALLEGED DISCOURTESY SHOWN BY A GOVERNMENT MEMBER IN ANSWERING A SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" I seek your protection, Sir, in connexion with the answer given by the hon. the Home Member and the discourtesy shown not only to my hon. Friend, Mr. Pocker, but also to me and to the House. The hon. the Home Member said that he did not want to answer the question."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I do not think the hon. Member is right in supposing that the hon. the Home Member meant any discourtesy to the hon. Members putting questions. I understood him to say that he is not in a position to answer the question. That is the only interpretation that I can put on the answer."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" The question put by my hon. Friend, Mr. Pocker, was whether the hon. Member will read the report before the House; the hon. the Home Member replied that he was not going to answer that question; Is that the kind of answer to be given to this House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The discourtesy came from the other side; the question asked is ' will the Home Member read it ? ' I think that is an insulting question."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Because the hon. the Home Member was not listening to me properly, he misunderstood the question. My question was ' will the hon. the Home Member please read the letter before this House for the information of this House? ' That was my question and the discourteous way in which the hon. Member answered that question, is not quite proper."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" There was no discourtesy shown on either side."

III.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.

DEMAND XX—PUBLIC HEALTH—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move—

> ' *that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,99,800 under Demand XX—Public Health—Transferred* '.

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

> ' *that the allotment of Rs. 20,99,800 under Demand XX—Public Health, be reduced by Rs. 100* '.

" I am somewhat surprised to see that two or three hon. Members of this House following the distinguished lead of the hon. the Chief Minister have given notice of motions asking for the abolition of this Department. I should have expected them to come before this House with proposals for the expansion of this Department. The All-India Conference of Medical Research Workers which met in 1924 and 1926 have drawn attention to the large number of deaths and of days lost to labour from preventible diseases in India. They have also pointed out the necessity for putting a stop to this wastage of life and efficiency. The Agricultural Commission, Sir, has emphasized the importance of developing the Medical and Public Health services in rural areas and they have impressed on the Government their earnest conviction about the need of assisting these services without stint of money or men. All

21st March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

progressive countries have to-day realized that prevention is better than cure. They have well-developed and well-organized Public Health services. They are spending increasing sums on Public Health services rather than on the work of medical relief. The Madras Government have reduced the allotment for Public Health from Rs. 35 lakhs in 1930–31 to Rs. 22 lakhs in the coming year. They are spending on Public Health only about one-fourth of the amount which they spend on medical relief.

"The Madras Government have been complimented by the Agricultural Commission for having the most highly developed Public Health Department. Yet, the work done here is, I must say, far behind the progressive standards attained in Western countries. Our District Health Officers are said to be engaged more in the control of epidemics than in seeking to prevent them. If the work of the Public Health Department is to be truly preventive, it must improve sanitation in the villages, it must provide better water-supply and hygienic milk supply; it must prevent the adulteration of food; it must provide an efficient system of drainage in towns and better housing for the workers; it must *regulate the development of towns by bringing town-planning schemes* into execution; and last but not least it must regulate and control the growth of population. We have the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act in operation in only 16 municipalities, protected water-supply in 34 municipalities and scientific system of drainage only in 3 towns. The record of town-planning work is far from satisfactory. There is almost no control or check exercised over the growth of population.

"I said, Sir, that the work which the Public Health Department is doing is far behind progressive standards. The importance of vital statistics is well recognized in all advanced countries. It is the foundation of all public health activities. It is by a study and analysis of birth and death rates and of the register of diseases that the health worker is helped in the investigation of the conditions that foster disease and in devising measures of public health. These figures may not be interesting to the ordinary person. But they have a very definite and important meaning to the health worker. It is true that we have made a great improvement in the matter of the registration of vital statistics but still we are far behind the standards attained in Western countries and even behind the goal which we could reach with the help of the existing organization. As admitted in the report on public health, the registration of vital statistics is particularly defective in rural areas. Such figures as we have reveal a disquieting state of affairs. The average duration of life in this Province and the incidence of maternity mortality and infant mortality are very high compared with what they are in Western countries. There is great need for maternity relief and child-welfare centres of work. Our local bodies are unable to make adequate provision for this sort of work.

"*A more satisfactory midwifery service and adequate provision for* ante-natal and post-natal work will no doubt help to lower the appalling maternity mortality in this Province. The health of the mother and child is affected to a considerable extent by the frequency of child

births. There is close correspondence between birth rates and death rates. High birth rate is associated with high infant mortality and high sickness rate, and vice versa. One of the best ways to reduce the incidence of maternal and infant mortality is to teach people, particularly among the poor, not to have many children. The proper spacing of children for health as well as economic reasons is a great necessity. Each additional child lowers the standard of living for the whole family, The hon. the Minister must be aware that the middle and upper classes in all Western countries have acquired knowledge of birth-control methods and they are limiting their families. It is the lower classes that are greatly multiplying themselves. The birth rate is in inverse ratio to wealth. I am reminded of Bernard Shaw's paradox about dinners without appetite and appetite without dinners. At one end of the town there are dinners without appetite and at the other end appetite without dinners. Similarly they have plenty of house room and comfort without babies at one end and babies without adequate provision for them at the other. It is the poor people that are economically less capable of bearing the burden of large families that stand in need of information regarding birth-control. In the city of Stockholm, birth rate is adjusted according to income, the lowest being among the poorest of the people. Limitation of family, spacing of children for health and economic reasons, the prevention of rapid pregnancy on medical grounds, I consider these to be part and parcel of public health work. Birth-control must be regarded as a contribution to preventive medicine. I find, Sir, in the latest report of the Public Health administration an admission from the Director of Public Health regarding the necessity of considering the question of birth-control in view of the large increase in our population as indicated by the census figures of 1931. Colonel Russel, one of the ex-Directors of this department, studied the population figures in this Presidency and he came to the conclusion that the population in this Province as well as in the City had very nearly reached the maximum. Our population, I am afraid, is increasing faster than it is desirable in the present difficult economic circumstances of the country. Promotion of public health activities, reduction in death rates and infant mortality will necessarily result in increasing the population. Increase of population will lead to overcrowding, less
5 food supply, poverty, disease and greater mortality. It works in a vicious circle. Unless the growth of population is checked by proper measures, all the good work done by public health work will be nullified. Hence, Sir, I urge the need for birth-control propaganda. The increase of population beyond certain limits brings manifold evils in its train. Limitation of family must be considered as an essential part of the preventive work to be done by the Public Health Department.

"I know that there are many critics and scoffers. Some people say that birth-control is unnatural, that it will encourage vice and that it is also dangerous from the medical point of view. Any new movement is bound to meet with opposition before it makes headway. I want to tell all those critics and scoffers that they are fighting a losing battle. There is a great change taking place now in the attitude of the public about this question. In Western countries, information regarding the

methods of contraception is spreading fast and birth-control is being widely practised. I can quote to critics and scoffers the opinion of many public bodies and eminent men in support of birth-control. The Medical Committee appointed by the National Council of Public Morals have reported in 1927 in favour of making information on methods of birth-control available to all married people who need it for medical reasons or on account of excessive child-bearing or poverty. Mr. H. G. Wells, whose name is well-known, says that 'the knowledge of birth-control must be made available to every adult in a civilized community'. I ask the Minister, Sir, to consider seriously the question of the Public Health Department taking up this question of birth-control propaganda and to consider also the desirability of making information on birth-control available to poor working mothers at maternity centres and birth-control clinics. You may know, Sir, that in Mysore they have already established several clinics. There are many and varied problems, Sir, to be tackled by the Public Health Department. I am sure that those who speak after me, will deal with some of these questions. There is the question of the research work, there is the question of an effective control over malaria and there are many such other questions. I do not want to go into them.

"Before I conclude, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister to what I said regarding the Public Health Bill last year. He promised to look into it at the time of the Budget discussion. I want to know whether that Bill is still kept pending. Let Madras enact this piece of legislation, Sir, and give a lead to the other Provinces in this country."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, my Friend Mr. Shetty has dealt in detail with what the department ought to do. Therefore, I do not mean to waste my time by going into details. I only want to point out that the expenditure of this department has grown during the last eight years from Rs. 14 lakhs to Rs. 31 lakhs, that is, an increase of 125 per cent, although on account of pruning, as a result of the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, the amount budgeted for next year is only about Rs. 23 lakhs. But, Sir, we must take stock of the work done by the department during this period and see whether any increase in the amount of expenditure has been proportionate to the increase in usefulness of the work done by the department and whether better results could not have been achieved by spending the same amount but by differently organizing the department. Before the last reorganization, the department was under the Surgeon-General and the District Staff under the District Medical Officer who was then known as the District Medical and Sanitary Officer. Since 1923–24, the expenditure on the district organization itself has risen from Rs. 4½ lakhs to Rs. 8¼ lakhs. I am not suggesting that the old system should be revived, but what I say is that in spite of the change and the increased expenditure, things have not at all improved. The district staff, or more accurately the Health Inspectors, are generally engaged in writing their weekly and monthly returns and such other things, which they

say, take the major portion of their time and leave very little time for them to do any useful work. If they go to the villages, they do so to sign the birth and death registers, to show that they have checked the register of vital statistics. They sometimes also go to the villages to verify or check the results of vaccination. If they do anything more, it is at the time of the outbreak of cholera or any other epidemic. They seem to get information of the outbreak of epidemics not immediately, but only one or two weeks after the outbreak. Then, by the time they prepare themselves and reach the village, it will be some time after the outbreak has subsided. Even if they are in time, is it for this sort of work alone that this department has been brought into existence? I think not. This is a preventive department and on the principle that prevention is better than cure, a rupee spent in this department should be worth Rs. 2 under medical. Colonel Russell says in his memorandum on the future development of Public Health Services, in 1925: 'Most of the time and energies of the District Health services have been devoted to the control of epidemics. Obviously, the more logical process should be the prevention of such diseases. Isolated efforts conducted with no definite object in view except, say, the prevention of further cholera deaths in an infected village will result in little that is of permanent value.'. As I said, Sir, no work of any permanent preventive nature is done by these people. Nothing is done for village sanitation, as my Friend Mr. Shetty pointed out, no public lecture or any such thing which will teach the people how to keep the sources of drinking water uncontaminated, how to preserve their health, etc.

" Now about the gentleman known as the District Health Officer, the less said the better. He is said to be busy checking the monthly, weekly and other returns of these Inspectors. If he does anything else, it is precious little indeed. He also visits the offices of the Inspectors—perhaps for checking their work—and writes a long report. These people are expected not only to visit the villages now and then and acquaint themselves with the conditions of the people in the villages, but also to lecture to the people about measures for protecting water sources, and to go to festivals and other places where people congregate and give them lessons on how to preserve their health, with the aid of magic lantern shows and other means. I put a question, in this Council some time back to enquire as to what these people in South Kanara are doing, whether they are a model for others in other parts of the Presidency. For several months, Sir, I had no reply; but when I got the reply, what was it? A mountain in labour brought forth a mouse. It was so evasive and inexact. I do not think there is any objection to my saying here what I felt. I did not believe it at all. At least, the most important portion of the reply I could not believe. The Director of Public Health was good enough in the meanwhile to visit my district. I do not know whether it was as a result of my question. He however promised to visit the district again; but I could not show him all that I wanted to, as he came without previous information and could not remain in the village for more than a couple of

21st March 1932] [Mr. Mahmud Schamnad]

hours. But, I think, Sir, he gathered sufficient information to arrive at the conclusion I have mentioned above. At the Kasaragod Railway station, he casually asked a gentleman whether he knew that there is a department known as the Public Health Department. The answer was ' no '; he has never heard of it. Then he asked him again whether he had seen an animal known as the Health Inspector and whether he had come to his village. He said ' no '. A wonderful department, indeed! If there is any doubt about this, I challenge the Minister or any responsible officer of the department; I am prepared to prove this. What I now say is—I have said this in my speech last year also—these district officers do very little work. They do not feel that they ought to be touring in the villages. It is also difficult to make them work properly. Then the only other thing they are said to be doing is checking the work of the Inspectors. For this work of checking the Inspectors' work—perhaps there may be ten or twelve Inspectors in a district—one officer is not necessary for each district; a district officer can very well do the work of three districts. The only objection to this proposal is that as they are working under the District Boards, it will be very difficult to co-ordinate the work if one man is put under three District Boards. This, I think, Sir, is not an insurmountable difficulty. On an average, three districts will have thirty ranges and one district officer, if that is the only work he is doing, can check more than fifty ranges.

" Therefore, what I request the hon. Minister to do is to abolish the District Health Officers and to appoint in their stead Assistant District Health Officers, one to be in charge of two or three districts and also to increase the number of Health Inspectors, for it is they that will be able to do any real work. It is also true that in the case of many, a good deal of their time is taken up in writing their returns, but if their number is increased sufficiently, they will have enough time to go to the villages frequently and come into touch with the people and do the needful with their help. I understand that according to the recommendations of the Sanitary Commissioners' Conference, this Province ought to have 2,250 Inspectors against 300 Inspectors we have now. It will, of course, be necessary to increase the number of supervising agencies gradually as the number of Inspectors are increased. 1 no

" Sir, the question of the abolition of the department, as it is at present, and making the Surgeon-General the head of the department and placing the district organizations under the District Medical officers, was considered by the Retrenchment Committee and some Members were also in favour of the idea, but on account of the able advocacy of the present head of the department, who seems to be a very energetic and earnest officer, it was decided that this system should be continued for some time more, because we felt sure that the present Director of Public Health would be able to reform the department thoroughly and work it more efficiently by increasing the number of Inspectors and reducing the number of district officers. We are sorry to find, however,

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad] [21st March 1932

that some of our proposals which were necessary, as a beginning, for bringing about the desired reform and for increasing the efficiency of the department on the lines indicated above, for instance, the abolition of two posts of Assistant Directors of Public Health, abolition of the posts of six Assistant District Health Officers, etc., have been rejected by the Government. Sir, I hope the Government will be good enough to carefully consider the suggestions made and bring about the desired change."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Mr. President, Sir, this is one of the departments which requires the careful attention of the Government, because it is on the proper working of this department that the health of the people of the Province to a large extent depends. In spite of the fact that expenditure on this department has been increased from 14 lakhs during the last eight years to 31 lakhs, I am sorry to observe that the health of the Province has not improved to any appreciable extent. For instance, the death-rate has not gone down and the question of infantile mortality is looming large before our eyes even to-day, which will be a disgrace to any civilized country. If we compare the figures that are obtaining in western countries with those obtaining in our Province, we must hide our face in shame. What is it that the Public Health Department is doing to remedy this state of affairs? Either the Public Health Department is not manned efficiently, or the work of the department is carried on on very wrong lines.

"I wish also to refer to one other aspect. The one community that is affected more than any other community in the matter of the propaganda that is carried on by the Public Health Department is the Muslim community, because the health inspectors and propagandists do not go into the localities inhabited by this community and there are no health inspectors specially appointed for the purpose of going into gosha houses in order that they may teach the gosha ladies with regard to the question of public health.

"I do not know, Sir, why Government has made a change in the personnel of the Director of Public Health. It seems to me that this department requires at the head of affairs a gentleman who is acquainted with the ways of life of the people of the Province. He must therefore be a local man, a man who is acquainted with the habits, practices and local ceremonies and the various other religious practices of the people. If, on the other hand, we have a gentleman at the head who is absolutely foreign to what is obtaining in this Province, we cannot expect very much from him, because it will take a long time for him to get to know what exactly he should do. I understand that the present Director has been taken into the service for a period of five yars on a contract basis. I am sure, he would take two or three years to know what exactly are the requirements of the people of this Province so far as health is concerned. Some time back Major Hesterlow was there and although he was an Anglo-Indian gentleman, he was born in this country and he certainly understood the problems that arose

21st March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

in regard to public health matters, but he was sent away one fine morning and another gentleman from another Province has been brought on a five-year contract basis. It remains to be seen what he will be able to do during these five years.

"Then, Sir, with regard to the services, I find, on a reference to the statistics supplied to us for 1924 to 1931, that among the gazetted officers there is not one Muslim, among the non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over also during these years there has been only one Muslim, whereas the number has increased from 38 to 64, and out of the non-gazetted officers drawing Rs. 35 and upwards but below Rs. 100, there is not even one Muslim. Again, Sir, in the case of non-gazetted officers getting Rs. 35, for instance, peons and others, out of about 338 people there are only 22 Muslims. I therefore wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the disparity that we find in this matter of Muslim representation in this department. I would like to ask him whether, as one who has the interests of all the communities in his heart, he has done anything in the matter. In the Medical Department also, there is hardly any Muslim worth mentioning. In the Public Health Department also we find we have a sad tale to tell. I know he is all sympathy to the interests of all communities and whenever we go to him and represent any matter he is always willing to do whatever he can do, but the intention of any gentleman can be judged only from the result and in this case I am afraid that the results are not satisfactory enough to show that the hon. the Chief Minister has done very much in order to satisfy the demands of this community for he has not given the attention that is required from a sympathetic gentleman like him.

"With regard to the question of Health Officers, I do not know why Government has not provincialized the service. It was, I suppose, in the year 1922 that this service was established on a district basis. Though the Government has been promising to provincialize this service, I do not know why they have not done so and have not given the same privileges enjoyed by the Agricultural and Veterinary departments. I want to know whether this department is less important than either the Agricultural or the Veterinary department. Further, Sir, out of about 60 Health Officers only 25 or 30 of them have been made permanent. Persons who have been holding officers for the last 5 or 6 years are still on a non-permanent basis. I wonder what will be the effect of having these officers, whose prospects are not known to them and who do not know their future and whether they will not be sent away at a moment's notice. What exactly is the Government going to do with these officers? Is it not waste of money to have people appointed on an acting basis, not making them permanent, because you cannot get from them the maximum service that you would derive otherwise? I understand it was in 1927 that the last confirmation was made and since that time not even one was confirmed. I really do not know what Government mean by keeping these men for a long time without any prospect of their being made permanent.

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [21st March 1932

" *Sir, the officers of the Public Health Department* are also suffering under another great disability. The Fundamental Rules that apply to Government servants do not apply in the case of these people, especially in matters of leave. They are not given the same privileges as other Government servants who come under the Fundamental Rules. I believe they are allowed only four months' leave, whereas permanent men have got the privilege of taking four months' leave on full salary and another four months' leave on half salary. I ask, Sir, why not allow these people also to enjoy the same privilege that is enjoyed by the other permanent Government servants.

" These are some of the matters I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. the Chief Minister, so that he may kindly give his best attention to these matters, especially in regard to the question of Muslim representation in the services. I suppose both Medical and Public Health are under his charge and I am sure the hon. Minister will see that such of the Muslims as have come out of the Medical College successfully and have been waiting for employment will at least be taken in the Public Health Department."

* Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder :—" Mr. President, in rising to speak on the cut motion, I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the necessity for appointing qualified medical men of the status of Sub-Assistant Surgeons as Health Inspectors. Thus they can avoid duplication of the services. For instance, in respect of medical relief, the poor villager is finding it difficult to get medical aid. I am sure, if these Health Inspectors are duly qualified medical men, they can render medical relief even to the poorest villagers in the remotest parts. I understand there is now a scheme for appointing health visitors. My opinion is that it will not be necessary to appoint health visitors, if only health inspectors are substituted by medical men and women trained in health welfare work. That is the object with which I have given notice of a cut motion. I have carefully considered the reasons that have been advanced against my proposition and may be quoted by the hon. Minister in support of the existing scheme; but nevertheless I come to the same conclusion that it will be far better to have medical men in the place of the present Health Inspectors. The money spent upon the Health Inspectors is a waste. A certain proportion of the cadre I propose may go to women medical officers, so that wherever women workers are required they may be sent. Thus by a consolidation of the services a lot of money may be saved under this head, and proper medical relief can also be given to the poorest in the remotest parts, who are at present suffering for want of this. I dare say the presidents of local boards will bear me out when I say that the present Health Inspectors are doing very little work practically."

* Mr. J. A. Davis :—" Mr. President, Sir, I would just like to make a few suggestions to the hon. the Chief Minister. Firstly I strongly support my hon. Friend, Mr. Ari Gowder, in his request that

Health Visitors may be replaced by medical men. Sub-Assistant Surgeons, if allowed to make private practice, would be cheaper and could treat the villagers as well. These remarks also apply to Lady Health Visitors or Inspectresses. If they were also of the Sub-Assistant Surgeon's grade, their presence in the village would be a real boon. I also agree with my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, that along with the measures that are being taken to bring down infant mortality, there should be propaganda in the direction of birth control to avoid increase of population and overcrowding, as pointed by Colonel Russell.

"In regard to the newly introduced Food Adulteration Act, I have to say that this Act is not likely to function unless powers are given to Health Officers to sanction prosecutions, as they are not likely to get such sanction from the chairmen of municipalities, or presidents of district boards.

" In the vexed question of the supersession of Major Hesterlow by Major Web, I have nothing to say against Major Web except that Major Hesterlow's qualifications are superior. The Government have taken the attitude that no departmental officer shall become the head of his department unless he has less than five years' service to put in. In this department, Government have followed this rule; but in others they have not. Will the Government permit of officers so placed being made the head of their department on condition they retire at the end of five years and will the Government either lay down that Major Hesterlow becomes the Director of Public Health at the end of five years or that he may now become the Director of Public Health on his undertaking to retire at the end of five years? Will the Government place on record the policy they mean to follow in similar cases and what is to become of Major Hesterlow's case? "

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not intend to take up the time of the House as to the general Public Health policy. Let me refer to a few isolated questions. As regards infant mortality, I think all are agreed that it is a positive scandal. But it is certainly a very complicated question, because it is not merely by Public Health measures that we can find a solution for it, for it is very much involved with the general question of poverty. But I hope, Sir, that the Government will be able to say what they are doing in this matter. This House has very frequently urged upon the Government the necessity for extending child-welfare centres and so forth; and I would like to know from the hon. Minister what progress has been made with reference to this matter.

" May I say a word about birth-control about which my hon. Friend Mr. Shetty and other hon. Gentlemen spoke? That again is a very complicated question which it is hardly possible for any one on the floor of the House to go into and weigh pros and cons. There are two sides to that question but certainly I am opposed to it and I hope that the Government will never introduce such a measure in this country. To say that it would solve the problem of infant mortality

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [21st March 1932.

would be a shortsighted view of the whole question. As I said, we have certainly not reached the margin of subsistence in this country; we can think of so many ways of procuring more food and providing for our comforts. Especially, when in the West, people are beginning to think that they had made a mistake in this direction it seems improper that we should rush into it. I will leave the question at that.

"With reference to the scourge of malaria, it is certainly very important that it should be stamped out. But, Sir, the Government have decided to abolish the post of Malarialogist. I have nothing to say about it except to ask the hon. Minister what he has done so far to stamp out the terrible disease from this country. I believe, Sir, the annual deaths in this Presidency alone are somewhere about 125,000 and the number of cases treated in our hospitals is somewhere about 7 millions. I wish the hon. Minister will be able to tell us that they have solved this problem and that they have definite plans for putting down this scourge.

"Closely connected with the question of malaria is the manufacture of quinine. I know that it is not under the control of the hon. Minister; but still as it is a very important question, I should like just now to mention one or two points. The annual demand of quinine, I believe, Sir, is somewhere near 160,000 pounds and 40,000 pounds only are being imported into this country. I would like to know from the Government whether they have any schemes for the expansion of the production of quinine. Unless they solve the problem of local production of cinchona bark, the cost of quinine is sure to be prohibitive, for the price is being determined by producers outside and we are helpless and are forced to purchase the quinine at prices fixed by other people.

"Then, we have the question of bubonic plague. No doubt it is not an easy question. I can understand the disease making its appearance in districts in the neighbourhood of Mysore, but I cannot reconcile myself to the continuous toll that is levied in certain isolated districts of this Presidency where importations are quite improbable and where the operation of the Health Department are carried out, but to no effect. I refer to the Madura district. I hope my hon. Friend will look into the question.

"Lastly, Sir, I have to say something with regard to the retrenchment that has been effected in the Public Health Department. I understand that the Government have decided to abolish one post of Deputy Sanitary Engineer and the post of the Personal Assistant. Under the present arrangement, without a Personal Assistant and two Deputies travelling about the Presidency outside Madras, I wonder how the teaching can be done to the Sanitary Inspectors and in the Medical College. Nextly, Sir, by the division of work on a territorial basis, the work for one may be too much and that for the other too little. Sir, I think that the Government will find it more economical to concentrate the offices in Madras itself, and place them in one locality. For instance,

21st March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

in New Delhi, the entire establishment of the P.W.D. is in one building—the Secretary to the Government, the Superintending Engineer, his Deputies, the Consulting Architect, the Electrical Engineer are all in one building—so that the correspondence between these officers is not being carried on by letters beginning with 'From so and so, to so and so' and ending with 'I have the honour to be, etc.' but by office notes which are passed on from one officer to others concerned. They have one concentrated clerical establishment and the work is done very efficiently. I request that the Government will consider this point."

* Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am very glad that my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, gave us a very interesting and lucid lecture upon Public Health. Very impressive it was. Both Mr. Shetty and the Ministerialists are right. Mr. Shetty wants an expansion of the Public Health Department and to make it more efficient. The Ministerialists say 'If you are not able to make it more efficient, why not end it—if you are not able to mend it, end it.' It is probable their view is because they see that the tendency is for a little deterioration, why not abolish the department.

"Sir, about birth control. As a medical man I am against it. 12-3 p.m. (Hear, hear.) Not only as a medical man, Sir, but also as a politician I am against it. Population is the only asset of India and Indians. Otherwise they are helpless. (Laughter.) And even if that thing is to be taken away from us, then what are we to do? (Laughter.) Sir, Mr. Shetty quoted the example of western countries. Well, Sir, they first adopted birth control and then finding the population going down they began to award prizes to those who produced most children to the State. (Laughter.) Now, Sir, do you want our country to follow that process? If you adopt birth control, then the population of India will decrease and decrease till perhaps the population will be annihilated, and perhaps this is one way in which we can solve the political problem. (Laughter.) Sir, after all it is not due to this over-population that our people are poor, but it is because of some other thing. As remarked by the late Swami Vivekananda, in India you can see a wealthy man living in his palatial mansion reaching almost the sky, bedecked in jewels and dressed in silks, living side by side with his half-starved, almost naked, brother living in his bare bamboo hut. If the rich man parts with some of his money to his starving neighbour, the problem of poverty may be solved a little. Moreover our expert Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar may tell us that there are a number of uncultivated lands that can be made cultivable by increased efforts in that direction. At least one million acres may be made cultivable by one project alone, but there may be ten million acres more that can be utilized with proper efforts. If these are taken up, our produce from land and agricultural products will be enough to keep our people above starvation, without resort to any birth control.

"On medical grounds alone birth control can be advocated. For that too, instructions should be given secretly, just in the same manner

as confession takes place between a priest and a disciple. One cannot imagine to what dangerous extent the free imparting of such instructions will be misapplied. If anybody wants birth control let him preach abstinence. Now abstinence and celibacy are the only sure and safe method to be pursued. (Hear, hear.) If you consider it impossible, then do not do anything in the matter; let our country be made populous and prosperous. (Laughter.) We are going to have self-government soon; and who knows we may have to set up colonies in many countries. (Laughter.) So let us have sufficient population so that when the time comes India may have her own colonies.

"And then about Health Officers and the Director of Public Health. Sir, the Director of Public Health should have initiative power to start schemes and solve health problems. Have we not had great men like Colonel King as Sanitary Commissioner and others? The King Institute of Preventive Medicine stands as a monument of his work. Able Sanitary Commissioners have studied the conditions of the country and have written books even. Now I want such people, people with initiative, with initiative genius I would say, as our Directors of Public Health. With regard to the appointment of the Director of Public Health, we have a grievance. The House discussed so much in favour of Major Hesterlow. In spite of that, his claims were overlooked. Generally the Professor of Hygiene becomes the Director of Public Health. He is also an I.M.S., he belongs to one of the oldest Anglo-Indian families of the Presidency; he knows the conditions of the locality. Anglo-Indians have begun to make this country their home, they have become sons of the soil as it were, and they have become our own kith and kin. (Hear, hear.) And so it should be the policy of Government to encourage their appointment in service. Domiciled Europeans and Anglo-Indians are to be treated as Indians. In this case there was an injustice done and I do not know how the Minister is going to rectify it. I am glad to learn that the present Director is a sincere and clever man and I hope he will make the best use of his situation. I think his term will be five years. I hope before the end of his term he will really have shown substantial progress.

"Sir, coming now to public health policy, not only the present Ministry but also the past Ministry, I would be more correct if I say the Government, have not done anything to improve our rural sanitation. Our villages are to-day in the same condition as they were forty years ago. Is there any protected water-supply scheme? Is there any pool, well, or any water-course reserved for drinking purposes only? Of course there has been so much talk about hermetically covered wells with taps and pumps. Where do they exist? They exist only in our books. We only hear of water being contaminated and the spread of disease consequent on that. There is no pool or pond or well set apart for drinking purposes and others set apart to be used for washing and cleaning purposes. Instead of that you see in a pond a man washing himself after defecating perhaps on the banks and then cleaning his teeth, another washing his cattle, and while the cattle is in the act of dropping its dung in the pond, you see a woman coming

and taking water from the same spot for drinking purposes, not to drink after boiling, but to drink fresh from it. Is there any sanitary inspector on the spot to appeal to them not to do such things? No.

" Then with regard to our rivers, Sir. Is there any place where they say only the upper portion of the river should be used for drinking purposes, and the lower portion should be used for washing and other purposes? Then what about our river-beds. They are not only huge latrines but also burning ghats and burial-grounds. People dying from smallpox and cholera are buried there; and in the rainy season water in the river is likely to be mixed with the germs of these diseases. We have not improved a bit for the last so many years. Hence, perhaps, some of the members of the Justice Party are tabling resolutions to abolish the Health department altogether.

" Then with regard to Vaccination. I do not know why the lymph that is now being produced is inferior to that we were getting before. In those days one vaccination was enough to protect one for twenty or thirty years; but now it is not found to be sufficient; I think every seven years people ought to be vaccinated. I request the Minister to see where the defect lies. In certain places, like far off villages, people escape from vaccination and the result is when they come to Madras they get smallpox easily. So our aim should be to see all are vaccinated. In Germany, Sir, they have adopted it wholesale, vaccinated and revaccinated, and I understand smallpox has been made a thing of the past in Berlin. So I ask why not we have such a thing in our own land? Sir, elementary education is the thing that is necessary for educating the public. Only this morning we heard the story that twenty-eight labour schools in one small taluk of Saidapet were abolished. I appeal to the Education Minister to protest against this. Elementary education and public health are the two of the many things that go to develop a nation. These two things ought not to be interfered with at any cost. The Education Minister consented to the abolishing of many elementary schools? In addition he fathered the Elementary Education Amendment Act. A number of teachers from backward communities were being given stipends to be trained as teachers. Those stipends have been stopped. Under such circumstances compulsory and free education in our Presidency will not progress."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" On a point of order, Mr. President, has elementary education anything to do with public health? "

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar :—" Sir, public health and elementary education go together. There is no use your spending any amount of money on public health if people are not able to understand what you are doing with it. You are spending a substantial sum of about 20 lakhs. We are having exhibitions of lantern slides. What is their use if people are not able to understand them? So, what I urge is that free and compulsory elementary education should be introduced

[Mr. C. Natesa Mudaliyar] [21st March 1932

at once; more and more schools should be opened; pial school and open air schools under the shade of banyan trees as in olden days should be encouraged; these are the only means of making education reach the masses; and then only the activities of the Public Health department will bear fruit, without much cost. The Exhibitions Report says *three millions out of 43 millions of the population of the Presidency attended the exhibition.* I am sure $2\frac{3}{4}$ *millions would not have understood what those exhibitions were for.* So I appeal to the Education Minister to at once introduce compulsory elementary education.

"Coming now to the Child Welfare schemes, we want more and more such centres. There are now many ladies from various communities and districts coming to study medicine. They should be encouraged with stipends; we want lady doctors to work in various districts all over the Presidency; we want lady doctors coming from all the districts. So I request the Minister to see that non-official members are appointed in the Committee which now consists of officials, namely, the Superintendent of the Royapuram Hospital and the Superintendent of the Victoria Gosha Hospital and the Personal Assistant to the Surgeon-General. As my friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, is urging me to sit down (laughter), with these few words I resume my seat."

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—"Sir, the time has come to take stock and find out whether public health activities have reached the masses, I mean specially the depressed classes. In these progressive days the depressed classes are charged with certain things. They are considered to be dirty and secondly people say that they are eating the flesh of dead animals. Sir, the Government has provided in the Budget Rs. 48,000 and Rs. 1,25,000 for mufassal and rural water-supply. I do not know under what system these amounts are doled out to the various districts. What I would suggest to the hon. the Chief Minister is doling out these grants is that he should see rural water-supply is extended to the depressed classes hamlets. As Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar has already pointed out, the pools and tanks in the villages are not looked after and consequently they are the birth place of all diseases. The other day I happened to go to a village called Vellakakovil in the Coimbatore district. Very near that, there is a hamlet of the depressed classes. The tank was full of weeds and even after throwing stones several times we were not able to find out whether there was water in it. Such was the state of affairs. There is only one Health Officer for the whole district. He goes through the district like a passing cloud. I agree with the point of view of Mr. Ari Gowder that there must be medical men of the status of Sub-Assistant Surgeons so that there may be some real public health work in those villages.

"Sir, time and again it has been brought to the notice of the Government in this House that there are caste Hindus who oppress the depressed classes and force them to take to eating the flesh of dead animals. Of course, we were told that there is provision in the Local Boards Act

21st March 1932] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

and that local bodies have got control over these things. But due to the apathy of the caste Hindus these rules are not followed and all the depressed classes are considered very low in society. Some serious efforts must be taken by Government to see that these things are taken note of and the Health Officer in each district asked to submit periodical reports to Government as to how far he has been successful in attempting to prevent such bad practices. It is not the depressed classes that are anxious to eat these things but on the other hand I have been told by responsible people that these people are forced to do that. Personally, myself and some of the other Members of the House have spoken to the Chief Minister on the matter and I am sure he will take some steps to eradicate this practice and that Health Officers and Health Inspectors will be instructed to give heed to such complaints.

" Sir, another point I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is that the municipal elections have come and gone and we are to face the District Board elections. These Health Officers are put into the provincial cadre and they are not very much under the control of the local bodies and they think that they can use their power as they wish. I have known instances of their going out of their way at the elections and, not being satisfied with that, taking part in party politics after the new Councils came into existence. Of course I am not here to level that charge against the District Health Officer of my district, but what happens in other districts must be taken note of by the hon. Minister.

" Sir, another point I would like to bring to the notice of the Government is about the anti-drink propaganda. I find the hon. Minister giving us a blank cheque. Of course, I know the views of the Government on this matter but what I would urge upon the hon. Minister is to recognize and offer a few facilities to such of the temperance associations that have been in existence long before the Propaganda Board came into existence and to afford some help to these associations so that they can carry on some useful work in this direction."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Mr. President, Sir, if there is any one department which ought not to have been touched by the axe of the Madras Retrenchment Committee, it is the Public Health department. The time has not come for the reduction of the staff of the Health department. Sir, I do not know why the money spent on Public Health department is considered to be less desirable than money spent on any other department, including even the Education department. If more than a crore of rupees is spent for primary education I do not know why a similar amount or a larger amount than that ought not to have been devoted for the purpose of the Public Health department. Is the health of the Presidency less desirable than even primary education? I do not agree with the hon. Member Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar that unless you know the three R's it is not possible for people to learn the elementary principles of sanitation. It is no doubt an advantage to have

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [21st March 1932

education, but I will rather be without education than put off expenditure regarding propaganda to spread the principles of elementary sanitation.

"Sir, it cannot but be said that the work so far done by the Public Health department in the way of propaganda work in the villages has been a failure, whether it is due to inadequate number of men or whether it is due to not having sufficient qualified men or any other cause, I cannot say. But there is no doubt some force in the suggestion made by the Member for Nilgiris that instead of engaging non-medical men as Health Inspectors it would be much better and a great advantage to take medical men. It seems to me a waste of time and waste of money to have two separate departments Health and Medical. Under the present system it is intended that medical men should give medical relief only to the rural population in rural medical dispensaries. I cannot see why those medical men cannot be entrusted with the duties under the Health department also. Nothing real can be done in the villages by occasional visits, probably a visit a year is what is now being done. I do not know if any villages have been visited by the Health Inspectors at all. The best thing that could be usefully done now is to divide the taluk into circles of say fifteen or twenty villages each and locate a doctor in each circle to look after health propaganda as well as to give medical aid. Things as they are in the villages at present are not conducive to health and propaganda can only be done with any use by doctors whose jurisdiction is small, to enable them to visit the villages as many times as possible. So the suggestion advanced by my hon. Friend from Nilgiris is a very sensible suggestion and ought to be worked out by the Chief Minister.

"There is one unfortunate recommendation made by the Medical Committee, namely, that the Medical colleges should not admit more than a definite number. I do not know, Sir, how the Committee recommended such a proposal. It seems to me that they are influenced by the consideration more of safeguarding the interests of the doctor than of safeguarding the interests of the people. It was brought to our notice yesterday that there are a number of doctors in Madras starving. It may be so. Still, I believe the necessity for increasing the doctors is there. There are any number of villages where the existence of a doctor is not known. If the starving doctors take into their heads to go to the villages, it will be a gain to the villages as well as to themselves. There are even now some doctors getting on in villages without any subsidy. If subsidy is necessary I hope Government will give them. There is need for any number of them to serve in the villages. So, I do not see why the colleges should restrict admission. I do not believe that persons seeking admission do so for taking up appointments only. If there are more doctors they will be driven to the necessity of settling down in villages. I earnestly implore the Minister to see that the number of medical men is increased. I was one of those who suggested long ago that it will be to the advantage of the general population if medical education is made free. If more doctors come out of the

21st March 1932] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

colleges, the country will be benefited more. The beauty of medical education is that the doctor will somehow make himself useful. The number of medical men should be increased and they should be entrusted not only with the work of giving medical relief but also with the work of doing propaganda on the principles of sanitation. It is only then that some substantial benefit could be done by the department.

" One of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee is the abolition of the Malaria Officer. If you go to the villages you find a lot of people suffering from and dying of malaria who do not know that quinine will overcome malaria. No serious attempts have been made by Government to see that the ravages of malaria are lessened.

" I do not know how the Government accepted the recommendation 1- for the abolition of the post of Malaria Officer. Is it because that they have come to the conclusion that the officer and his staff have not been able to give any relief in this direction or is it because they are not prepared to spend money on such an essential object as the prevention and cure of malaria?

" As to the propaganda done by Mr. Shetty, regarding birth control, it is one of the subjects which have been much talked about in western countries. I will urge only one consideration. We must not blindly follow the western ideals. I am not opposed to birth control for any sentimental reason. As my Friend Dr. Natesa Mudaliyar pointed out, there are countries in which this control is preached in season and out of season, with the result that some nations are finding their population decreasing. There are countries where increase of population is wished for. The problem now troubling the west is not likely to trouble us at any rate for some time. The question of food problem is no doubt a very important one. Western countries are depending on imports for their supply of food. They are not able to find a sale for their manufactured articles as hitherto. Nor can they produce enough foodstuffs needed for their consumption. So they are in a difficulty. Birth control looms large in their eyes to solve this difficulty. But we in India are in no such difficulty. We are drawing nearer to the time when we will be in a position to turn out all our requirements of manufactured goods and it would not then be necessary to export any of our foodstuffs to buy manufactured goods as now. We see that Japan has been able to increase her production of foodstuffs by two or three times in a decade. Why not India follow her? If our resources are properly utilised, there need be no cause for alarm that with the increased population starvation may stare us in the face; I do not think that any attempt should now be made to decrease the population. What is necessary is that we must concentrate on developing our resources.

" One word more. I was one of those who did not believe in Government anti-drink propaganda being the remedy for the drink problem. The remedy, I believe, for putting an end to the unhappy

drink habit in this country is absolute prohibition. But still I must say that the work that was hitherto being done by the Propaganda Committee has awakened the people to a sense of their responsibility in this matter. Therefore this propaganda work should continue in villages, and Health Inspectors alone will not do to do this work. Once again I urge the hon. the Minister to have a staff of medical men who can both do health propaganda and give medical relief and whom you can now employ on almost the same salary as you pay your Inspectors. With these words, I hope the hon. the Minister will devote his best attention to the improvement of health in this Presidency, especially in the rural parts."

* Mr. YAKUB HASAN:—" Sir, I consider this department to be one of the most useful departments. It has done very good work in the past decade, and it has not only justified its creation ten years ago, but has also made out a good case for its expansion. If the Indian Nation has not held its own as compared with other nations, it is because people have not advanced physically; I may even say spiritually and morally, because spiritual fitness and morality depend on the well-being of the physical condition of the race. It is not that it has not got sufficient food for its consumption, but because it is living under most insanitary conditions which are eating into its vitals and emaciating the people. Therefore, this department is a very necessary department, and I am glad that the most retrograde suggestion that was made was not adopted and this department is to continue to remain. It must be placed under the direction of a separate Director and placed under the Surgeon-General as it was proposed, as a measure of retrenchment. In passing I may also say that it is not fair that if any subordinate in any department has not shown as much respect to a Member of the Council as he ought to, when a Member calls upon him for service or information, he should be exposed on the floor of this House.

" It is stated in the Public Health Report that the birth rate is higher amongst the Muslim community than in any other. That shows that there is no tendency at least on the part of Muhammadans for practising birth control. It is a law of nature that the species that is most exposed to destruction multiply more rapidly. This report shows that in the case of human beings also, the same law holds good. If the mortality reports are analysed communally as the birth reports are, it would be found that the death rate also is higher amongst the Muslim community than amongst others. The poverty of the community and the customs prevailing in it, e.g., the observance of purdah by the ladies are the two chief factors that are responsible for this. Whereas Hindus generally live in open air and the whole earth is open to them for calls of nature, Muslim women and children are confined in small ill-ventilated houses, with a small courtyard, a part of which is occupied by a latrine in a most insanitary condition. So not only women contract diseases, but the children and men also living in such

21st March 1932] [Mr. Yakub Hasan]

houses are equally unhealthy. The mortality among infants in this community is very high. So it is desirable that more attention should be paid to maternity relief and child welfare than has been done hitherto.

" I find, Sir, from this report that some of the municipalities have not risen to their sense of responsibility and have not carried out measures that they were asked to do, for example, in connexion with fairs and festivals. There must be some provision for punishing these local bodies for their neglect. Such neglect has on many occasions been the cause of the breaking out of cholera or other epidemic. Special attention should be devoted to sanitary arrangements in places which are pilgrim centres. I am glad that the drainage of Tirupati and Srirangam has been taken in hand. In the case of smallpox, I do not see why compulsory vaccination has not been introduced in several areas in this Presidency. It is most necessary that compulsory vaccination should be introduced in all parts of the Presidency. I find that much useful work has been done by way of propaganda. Several municipalities have been inactive last year in this respect and their inactivity has been deplored by the Government. Such municipalities should be taken to task for any neglect that they may be guilty of in this direction."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" Sir, at the outset let me express my sincere thanks for the interest shown by hon. Members of this House in the improvement of the public health of this Presidency and their appreciation of the work done by the department for the amelioration of the health condition of millions in this Province. While no doubt, as is evidenced by some of the motions tabled here, there is a strong feeling that the department has not done what it is expected to do or what they want it to do, there is at the same time an appreciation of the work which in spite of the difficulties the department has been labouring under, it has done for the improvement of public health. Improvement of public health cannot be attained entirely or solely through Government agency, nor even by the appointment of a large staff. It depends to a very large extent upon the public health conscience of the people, upon the co-operation of the people with the various health authorities, and lastly upon the funds available to carry out the various improvements. We can congratulate ourselves that this Presidency has got the best system possible for the administration of public health. The present establishment is not sufficient and requires expansion, but we could not do anything in that direction owing to the present bad financial condition. I am very glad to note that one or two hon. Members have risen to protest against any attempt of the Retrenchment Committee or of the Finance Department to curtail the activities of this department or reduce its personnel, but unfortunately even this department could not escape the axe of the Retrenchment Committee. A few health inspectors and the Special Malaria Officer have had to go. We had to cut down the number of

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [21st March 1932

Assistant Directors of Public Health by one and the number of Deputy Sanitary Engineers also by one. We did not abolish the posts but we have not filled the vacancies which have arisen in the department.

" So far as the work of the department is concerned, it has been pointed out that the expenditure on the Public Health department has in recent years increased to about 20 or 21 lakhs. But may I point out to hon. Members that the increase in expenditure has been to a very large extent due to increased grants for water-supply and drainage schemes, grants for public health propaganda which we were carrying on at a cost of Rs. 4 lakhs and odd and other items? As pointed out by the hon. Mover of the motion, out of 81 municipalities, we have got a protected water-supply only in 15. Investigations are proceeding in the case of others. The estimates are ready in a few cases, but owing to financial stringency it has not been possible for the Government to commit themselves to any new schemes. All they could do was to carry on the schemes under execution and try to complete them as far as possible. Within the last few years large grants were given to the Madras Corporation to carry on its water-supply and drainage schemes. A sum of about Rs. 17 lakhs was being provided annually for the mufassal municipalities and about Rs. 7 to 10 lakhs for the rural areas for the improvement of the water-supply and other purposes. In the current year we had drastically to cut down the Budget allotment from 17 lakhs to 7 lakhs. Next year we could not provide for more than 6½ lakhs of which four lakhs go to Madras to enable the Corporation to carry on the works that are under execution and about 1½ lakhs for village water-supply schemes. It will therefore be found that the expenditure incurred during the last few years was not on the establishment but on works of permanent utility such as providing water-supply in as many towns as possible and also giving some kind of water-supply in villages though not on the scale which had been worked out. Therefore the increase in expenditure during the last few years need not alarm anybody; my only regret is that we could not continue the activities on the scale on which it had been carried on in past years. On the other hand, we had to cut it down to the barest necessities.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, is never tired of couching his remarks in a language which is inimitable. He said that the Director of Public Health met some one at a Railway station and asked him whether he knew there was existing a department called the department of Public Health and got the reply that he did not know it. He then asked him also whether he knew there was such an animal known as the Health Inspector and to that he got the answer 'No'. Such ignorance is typical not only of poor villagers but also of many other people who ought to know better of the activities of the Public Health Department. I am afraid that even my hon. Friend, Mr. Schamnad, from the speech he made here, has shown that he is not so fully conversant with the details of the administration of public health in this Presidency. He said that the District Health Officers had not much to do and that three or four districts may be grouped under one officer. He also complained that they did nothing except checking the returns of the various

21st March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

health inspectors. Even as it is, there have been complaints that the District Health Officers could not do sufficient touring work. How then could they do it any better if they are placed in charge of two or more districts? That is why the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee of which honourable body he is a Member, were not accepted in this respect. I need say no more on this point than that I am sorry that the remarks made by my hon. Friend Mr. Schamnad showed a great want of knowledge of the activities of this department and sympathy with the work they are doing under difficulties. If really we were to accept every recommendation he made in the Retrenchment Committee, woe unto the department itself.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, spoke on birth control. I know there are other people who do not agree with him; (Interruption) there are very few people, I think, who agree with him. It is not an easy subject to tackle. It must depend on the advance of public opinion. The attitude of the Government will depend on the strength of public opinion on the subject. I find from the trend of the speeches made here that this is not the time for the Government to take any initiative in the matter. It must be left to public opinion to assert itself.

"Some hon. Members have regretted that one of the officers in the department has not been promoted as Director of Public Health and an outsider has been brought in. Much can be said both for the view that an outsider is a good acquisition and for the view that officers in the department should be promoted. But I can say this without any fear of contradiction—and I am sure those who have had anything to do with the Director of Public Health will agree with me—that Mr. Webb is a valuable acquisition to this Presidency. In the short time he has been here he has shown himself a capable and enthusiastic officer. The fact that he has had no experience in this Presidency does not count against him because he has had enough experience in other Provinces and the problems of public health are almost the same everywhere. Difference in the vernaculars spoken by the people does not make any difference in the problems of public health. In the short time since he took charge of his office, he has toured throughout the Presidency and acquainted himself with the peculiar conditions of the various parts of our Presidency. In the talks he had with me he said his only regret was that he was not given sufficient funds to push on with his work as quickly as possible. I do not want to say anything more about the claims of the several individuals except that in Mr. Webb we have got a very capable officer.

"As regards District Public Health Inspectors, as was pointed out by the hon. Member, Mr. Schamnad, we want many more of them in the Province if real work is to be done. The 300 or so that we have is not sufficient. But Government are unable to provide for the necessary expansion of the staff.

"Another point raised by Mr. Ari Gowder is that it would be better if medical men are recruited for these posts. I may point out that

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [21st March 1932

Government are in entire sympathy with it. There are already 12 medical men with L.M.P. qualifications employed in the department. The question is to what extent men with L.M.P. qualifications will be willing to work on salaries now given to health inspectors. If there are any coming forward Government will be glad to take as many as are required for their purpose. Even L.M.P. men will have to undergo a training and if they undergo that training successfully and pass the necessary examinations they will be eligible for appointment as health inspectors."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Increase the salary of health inspectors."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" The question of increasing the salaries of health inspectors is not a practicable proposition now.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, referred to the poor representation of Muslims in the service. He also raised the bigger question of provincialising the health officers. He said that many of them have not been confirmed and that some of the benefits of the Fundamental Rules have not been given to them. In this connexion I should say that the present health officers are rather in a peculiar position. According to the Local Boards and Municipalities Acts, health officers are officers under the control of the local bodies concerned. Their services have been lent to local bodies by the Government. In the case of district boards Government meets the whole cost of the health officers and in the case of municipalities the Government meets two-thirds of the cost. But under the statute they are all liable to disciplinary action by the local boards. It is only by some arrangement between the local boards and municipalities and the Government that some control is retained in the hands of the Government. Therefore it is not possible to provincialise them because the statute stands against it. Nor is it possible to confirm them unless it is possible to provincialise them. It requires some amendment of the law. Moreover, provincialisation would involve increased financial responsibility for the Government. For these reasons, although the question has been pending for a long time, it has been given up for the present, and I am afraid cannot be taken up until financial conditions improve.

" As regards representation of Muslims in this department, the question of direct recruitment through the agency of the Public Services Commission is now under consideration and when it is settled, the principle of communal representation in direct recruitment will be given effect to. I am sure Mussalmans will certainly be recruited in sufficient numbers provided suitable and qualified candidates are available. My hon. Friend also referred to the question of Muslim Lady Health Visitors. That is a matter for the Corporation of Madras of which he is such a distinguished member. Moreover, there are about 12 members of the Corporation who are also Members of this House, and they may easily take up the question of appointing Mussalman Lady Health Visitors in the Corporation.

21st March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

" My hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi said that there should be no restriction in regard to the admission of students to the Medical College. I do not know how far it is strictly relevant to this Demand, but I may tell him that admission to a medical college, unlike an arts college, cannot be made to an unlimited extent. It should be limited to the amount of clinical material and the apparatus available and so on."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" They are purposely restricting it."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I do not think they are purposely restricting it.

" My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, referred to the question of the Special Officer for malaria. The Special Officer has investigated the incidence of malaria in various places and submitted a very valuable report on it. On this report, action has been taken by the Government and we have called the attention of the various local bodies in respect of matters to be dealt with by them. The particular office has been abolished owing to retrenchment and also because there would not be sufficient funds forthcoming to follow up the investigation that he has made. (A voice:—What about the officer?) He will be provided for somewhere. (A voice: 'On what pay?') That is a matter which I cannot answer now.

" It is true that in the Cumbum Valley in Madura, there is plague; investigation was carried on in that valley during the year, under the auspices of the Indian Research Fund Association. Investigation is being carried on by a Special Officer and the Government are awaiting his report.

" My hon. Friend referred to the Deputy Sanitary Engineers and the orders of the Government with regard to putting them in charge of territorial areas. He considers that if the Sanitary Engineer and his deputies are in Madras, they will be able to do better work. That is a matter on which there is difference of opinion. The Government think that the territorial basis may be continued and that this system may continue for some time longer before there is any change.

" The hon. Member, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, referred to a number of subjects. He appealed that the provision for rural water-supply might be utilised for providing facilities for water for the depressed classes. For this purpose, amounts are given to the local boards and they are advised to spend them also for the amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes. Secondly, the Labour Department is making provision for digging wells for the depressed classes. In that way, they are helped.

" He then referred to the eating of dead animals. I do not know what the Government can do in a matter of that sort. What is objected to is eating of dead animals which are diseased and which is therefore injurious to health. It depends entirely on the social opinion in the

[Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu] [21st March 1932

community itself, on the extent to which they will see that dead animals are not eaten by them. All that can be done by the Government has been done; they have directed the village officers that, if it comes to their knowledge that diseased animals have died, they should be disposed of by burial and not allowed to be eaten. Rules have been framed to prevent people from selling such mutton in public markets. Everybody in whose premises a diseased animal dies is obliged, under the rules, to report the matter to the village officer, so that the latter might make arrangements to bury it.

"The hon. Member also referred to the fact that some health officers are interfering in the elections. The allegation is vague and if my hon. Friend will furnish me with details, I shall be very glad to have the matter investigated. No Government officer—much less an officer employed in local board service—should interfere with the elections. I have dealt with the various points that were raised by the hon. Member.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, referred to Public Health Law. I have been at some pains to examine the English Law on the subject and treatises dealing with that. The English Public Health Law was enacted in the year 1875; afterwards there were various additions made to that Law. Many of the provisions of our Local Boards Act, of the District Municipalities Act and of the City Municipal Act have been framed on the lines of the 1875 Act. But what is really required is more powers to the local bodies to enforce the law and that enforcement must not be left to the elected chairman or president but to the executive officers who will enforce the Act as a matter of duty irrespective of the question of fear or favour of any party. In later years, provision was made in England by the amendment of the Act, to give the local bodies power to take the initiative and to increase the rates. These are the two directions which we must think of, if we want to improve our Public Health Law. So far as the main provisions are concerned and so far as the principles laid down for the guidance of the various local bodies are concerned, there is not much to be done by way of improvement. But what is really required is to vest the power of enforcing these laws in an executive officer who can do it irrespective of the feelings of parties in a democratic body, and to see that these local bodies have got some power of raising the rates of taxation with a view to carry out various improvements. To a very large extent, local bodies in the West have carried out their health activities by undertaking the responsibility of raising the taxes, though the Government have also come to their relief. But unfortunately, the present state of our finances are such that nothing can be done for the Public Health activities without a provision for enabling local bodies to raise the incidence of taxation. I do not know how this Council or as a matter of fact, any Council would authorize any Minister to come forward with proposals for increasing taxes. I know the feeling of the Council when the last amending Bill was brought before them. They would not agree to any increase in taxes. No amount of legislation is going to improve matters so far as the Public Health activities are concerned, unless there is sufficient

21st March 1932] [Mr. B. Muniswami Nayudu]

public opinion and unless the public are prepared to tax themselves to meet the requirements of each case. From these two standpoints, I am examining the draft that is already prepared. I doubt very much whether this Council would agree to further taxation. But with regard to the former—that is giving these powers to some executive officer—this question is connected with the proposal, which I have already before me, of having executive officers for local bodies."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is that—

'*the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 20,99,800 *under Demand XX—Public Health—Transferred*'."

The Demand was carried and the Grant made.

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

DEMAND XXI—AGRICULTURE—TRANSFERRED

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 15,74,500 *under Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred*'."

* Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the Demand for Rs.* 15,74,500 *under XXI—Agriculture—Transferred, asked for by my hon. Friend, the Development Minister—or as he calls himself the Minister for Public Works—be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" In doing so, I want to raise a discussion on the general agricultural policy of the Government. Sir, it was, I think, my hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan who said that the departments in charge of the hon. the Minister may be called the Cindrella departments. I am not willing to subscribe to that opinion, because, Sir, the departments under his charge are really the most important of the many departments that have been transferred to the administration of the Ministers. If my hon. Friend, Mr. Rajan, is, what shall I say, a she-cindrella or a he-cindrella, I hope he will very soon find the Princess Charming who will lead him from poverty to plenty and prosperity. Sir, the subject of agriculture, it need hardly be said, is very varied, and the problems connected with it are not only important but urgent. The overwhelming majority of the population depend upon agriculture for their livelihood. Industries do not furnish occupation for more than a very small fraction of the population. It is also conceded that agriculture is not a paying proposition and that those who depend upon agriculture are hardly able to make both ends meet—in fact, as some Members have put it, even have a full meal a day. If that is the position, what are we going to do to

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [21st March 1932

meet the situation? Surely, the present state of affairs cannot be long allowed to continue. The vast majority of the population have to depend only on agriculture, and agriculture does not give them enough to eat; and if, as we are seeing, people owning lands find it difficult to make both ends meet and, in fact, are losing them to the non-cultivating sowcars, it need hardly be said that we are heading for a serious crisis. Now, I would ask the Government what they are going to do to meet the situation. I would put it like this. The soils in the country may be divided as wet lands and dry lands, and the dry lands may again be further divided into those of red soil and those of the black cotton soil. In regard to the wet lands generally, we are accustomed to growing either sugarcane or paddy. I gratefully acknowledge, Sir, that in the matter of paddy some new strains have been evolved which are certainly an improvement on the old kinds that we were using; but I feel there is a lot of room for the growing of more seed of that variety and introducing it all over the Presidency. I am referring to what is generally called the G.E.B. 24 variety. As regards sugarcane also, Sir, I think the expenses connected with that may, to a considerable extent, be reduced. For example, we find that the tops of the canes may be used instead of the whole cane for seed purposes. That gives you more germination and sprouts than the whole cane. Then there are questions connected with varieties also. I am not sure whether all wet lands should necessarily grow only paddy or sugarcane. I am inclined to think that there are other crops that might more advantageously be grown on these wet lands.

" Coming, Sir, to the dry lands which, as I said, may be divided into red soil and black cotton soil, I find that the Government have so far been restricting their attention only to the black cotton soil. They have been establishing a cotton farm here and a cotton farm there; and I think the reason for that was not so much that the Government were so much interested in the welfare of the ryot as they were in the foreign merchants who wanted good cotton to be grown here for feeding the mills in their own country. But, is that all that they could have done or can do? What about the millets like cholam, etc., which people have to depend upon in this country? The other day, Sir, the Minister was saying that attempts were being made to develop the growing of millets; but what have they done? They said they would establish a farm in an area pre-eminently suited for millets, in which millets were grown to a very large extent; and yet, Sir, they have dropped the scheme on financial grounds. There is again the problem of how black cotton soil can benefit by irrigation. We are all pleading for the Tungabhadra project, and if that project becomes an accomplished fact, I have no doubt that a lot of land which is now black cotton soil could be brought under the project. But what are the Government doing to demonstrate to us now in this black cotton soil? What is it that we can grow upon it successfully and use water for that purpose? There is a kind of feeling among the ryots that black cotton soil is not suited for and will not benefit by irrigation. They say that if the land is flooded, the salts in it are

21st March 1932] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

thrown up and the crops will suffer. Could not the Government do something to demonstrate to the people that if the project becomes an accomplished fact, they can take water and benefit by doing so? I know, that the agricultural farm at Hagari, when it was first established, was meant for this purpose—to see how far black cotton soil can be usefully irrigated—and yet for some reason or other, that idea was dropped mysteriously. Sir, Mr. Hilson who was the last Director of Agriculture tried to revive that idea. I wish that his successor will bear that in mind and see what he can do in that direction.

" Now, Sir, as regards the red soil, I doubt whether there is any farm at all established in the whole Province for making experiments in that soil. After all, Sir, that is the preponderating area in the Province. People there, are certainly far poorer than the people living in the black cotton soil tracts. If the Government did their duty according to the needs of the people, I should say they must first have tackled the question of the people living in the red soil areas. I ask them whether they would not establish farms in some red soil area and carry on experiments as to how far the cultivation there might be developed, whether any other varieties of crops could be grown there, etc. I think that in one direction the Government may very usefully carry on experiments. In certain parts of the country we undertook what is called a survey of subsoil water, especially in tracts which are proverbially deficient in rainfall. While on this, I think, in common fairness, I must acknowledge our deep indebtedness to Lord Goschen for his very keen interest in agricultural problems and his great concern in the welfare of the rural population. In a number of places bore holes were drilled to see if subsoil water was available. How have the Government availed themselves of the results? Have they tried to make use of a single bore well and demonstrate to the people how they could use water for irrigation purposes? I think, Sir, that the Government owe a duty to the people in that direction. It is no use saying ' I have shown that there is water here. Why don't the ryots come forward and make use of it? ' They cannot come forward because they are not sure of the results. They do not know, for example, whether there will be enough water for irrigation at all. They do not know either—whether if water is available, it will be sufficient for such an area as would make irrigation a paying proposition? These experiments should be carried on by the Government, and I wish they paid some attention to these things.

" I think, Sir, there is a great future for what may be called the growing of money crops. Mr. Ethirajulu Nayudu, when he was a Member of our Council, was pleading hard that the Government might bestow some attention on growing a particular variety of tobacco for which there is a great demand. Again, in certain portions of the Coimbatore district, the water is brackish, and yet the people are able to grow with its help chillies and tobacco. If that is so, cannot the Government find out whether similar things cannot be done elsewhere? If there is anything deficient in the soil, cannot the Government find out what it is, and cannot they advise what should be done to make up for that

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [21st March 1932

deficiency, so that profitable crops may be grown thereon? These are things, Sir, on which the Government should concentrate their attention.

"I have already mentioned sugarcane. There are large and compact extents in parts of the province where sugarcane is grown and yet the Government are neglecting those areas. There are seven or eight thousand acres of land under sugarcane, more or less in the Hospet taluk. When a sugarcane farm was thought of it should have been established in such a place because of the many facilities for the successful working of a sugarcane farm. The Government should consider this question once again.

"I want just to say a word about livestock—a subject in which I know, Mr. President, you were very deeply interested when you were with us here; and you visited many of these farms and were struck with the paucity of results that you noticed there. We have spent a lot of money in trying to open a new farm in Hosur and I was very sorry to learn, Sir, from a person—not an Indian—who was not interested in belittling the value of the farm, that the Hosur farm was going the same way the other farms had gone before. I think, Sir, it is a very serious matter, and I wish the Government will examine it.

"As I told you, Sir, I do not want to go into further details. That gentleman was not an Indian and he was not even in a civil department and I do not think he had any axe to grind in giving this information. I shall be relieved to know if it is a fact that the Hosur farm is fulfilling the objects we had in view when we started it.

·45 m. "Sir, the policy of the Government in regard to live-stock must be not to ask the people to have large herds of cattle but to see that people even though they may own only two heads of cattle, take good care of them, because it would be profitable for them to do so. In the matter of furnishing stud bulls, I think Government fall very much short of what one has a right to expect of them. I must also say that many of the stud bulls which the department are sending out are so only in name and they are not useful for the purpose for which they were intended.

"Sir, the Government should seriously aim at the Indianization of the Agricultural department. In saying that, let me assure you at once that I have no animus whatsoever against a non-Indian being entertained in this department, but experience has been very unfortunate so far as we Indians are concerned. Officer after officer has been recruited to that department; good people and efficient people come there, they gain experience, but just when they are in a position to show results they find, somehow or other, occupations elsewhere and go away on proportionate pension saying that they do not care to work under the new Reforms or for some such other reason. Is it fair, I ask, that we Indians should be asked to pay for all these people, getting them from outside, giving them training and making them good and efficient officers and just when they are beginning to be useful to us, we should

21st March 1932] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

allow them to go away. On the other hand, if he were an Indian, even if he retires from the department, he would at least be in the country to give us the benefit of his experience. So, I am rather willing to congratulate the hon. the Minister for his having put an Indian as the head of the department now. I know he is an I.C.S. officer, but I know also that he is a man of ability and energy and I hope he will be able to show results in the development of this department even better than any that have been shown by those before him. I wish, Sir, that this department will try to associate non-officials also in the work as in Bombay, where they have what are called 'Taluka Development Committees' and each demonstrator or the Deputy Director of Agriculture works in close co-operation with those people. I know of a friend for whom I have a great regard, saying, 'we do not want committees to advise us, but people who would simply carry out the directions which we are prepared to give.' This argument assumes that the department has the monopoly of all wisdom and that the poor ryots with whom they are asked to co-operate have nothing to give in return. I would ask that friend and others like him to be a little bit humble and recognize the possibility of even an illiterate ryot having something useful to give to the department. Now, Sir, these Taluka Development associations must not be merely told by the Government that they should do this or the other. I just want to tell you what in other countries —where people are certainly far more literate than people here and whose standard of life is much higher than what it is here—those Governments are doing for the farmers. Here is an account of what is taking place in New South Wales. There the farmers' experimental plots are arranged, sown and harvested by the agricultural instructors. Hundreds of such plots are sown every year. The department supplies seeds, manure and designs and plants the plots, whereas the farmer supplies land and labour and takes the harvest. That is a thing which will come as a shock to my hon. Friend, the Minister. Of course, he will say that in deserving cases the superintendent has the discretion to give seed free. I challenge the hon. Minister to say in how many cases has the department given seeds like that and allowed the cultivator to take the harvest without its claiming back the seed it had given or something more in addition. I think also the Government ought to make a systematic survey of the soil and be in a position to tell the ryot when he approaches them what kind of crop will suit his soil. Many are not aware of the present rules on the subject for the simple reason that the soil analyst is far away and the ryots are ignorant and have no means of knowing all about these things. If a man wants to have his soil examined, he has to apply to Coimbatore—probably he may have to pay Rs. 5 in addition—and the departmental officer gives his opinion, perhaps after the season for sowing is over. What I say is that facilities for this must be brought a little nearer to the people.

"Then, as regards the agricultural instruments, I think there is scope for improving them. Recently there was a great demonstration of tractors in the Bombay Presidency, to which the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Industries went, but I do not know what the

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [21st March 1932

results of their observations have been and if there was anything useful. I hope they will see their way to carry out similar demonstrations here. We have got an Agricultural Research Engineer appointed specially for the purpose of trying to find out and to suggest in what way our instruments that are now being used might be improved, so that it may involve less money to the ryot population and less labour to the cattle. Well, Sir, I do not know what the results of his work has been. I think he has done one or two things, but I wish he could have done more.

" Sir, one way to make agriculture a respectable and an honourable occupation, will be to interest the youth of the land in cultivation. I would ask my hon. Friend Mr. Rajan to turn to his two Colleagues—I see they have left him alone now as he left them alone some time ago—and ask them whether they have any ideas in regard to this matter. If he will turn over the pages of the old Council proceedings, he will find that they wanted agricultural education to be introduced in the high schools of the Presidency. Was that only a statement made by them for the consumption of the outside people or is a thing which they themselves would adopt now that they have an opportunity to do so? Well, Sir, in these and other directions, I think, Government must lay down a policy so that they may successfully work it out at least in the course of the next few years."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" Mr. President, Sir, it is unnecessary for me now to draw the attention of the House to the fact that agriculture is the chief industry in our country. I see that as it is at present practised, agriculture has ceased to be a paying concern and unless things are changed, instead of making more of the youth of the country and more of the intelligent portion of the population to take an interest in agriculture, you will find more and more people going away from the villages and getting into the cities for eking their livelihood as clerks or in other professions. Our methods have been evolved after a lot of experiments and a lot of experience gained, but at the same time it must be admitted that conditions have changed and we have to deal with products produced by methods about which we are not familiar. The use of machinery on a large scale by the agricultural population has changed the whole field, with the result that we are standing where we were probably some centuries back, while all over the world things have improved. Sir, in many crops we find that we are getting half the produce which some other countries get on the same area of land. The reason for that is no doubt the fact that we are not paying the same sort of attention to the seeds, to the varieties of grains or other products we want to raise and much more to the want of organization, proper finance and marketing. These are all things necessary for any profession in these days. Merely allowing the small landholders in the villages to do what they can will no longer satisfy the present-day conditions. The small area of the average holding in this country has become proverbial. Everywhere people seem to think when once they mention what the average holding in the country is, an explanation is found for the present state of things here.

21st March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

There is also the other thing, namely, the ignorance of the ryot and his inability to take advantage of any results produced by the researches of the Government departments or others. This is the nature of the explanation that may be given, but it ought to be said along with this, that there is the cost of financing. Unless the agriculturist is enabled to get money for buying proper seeds at the proper time and he is not put to the necessity of going to the creditor to get whatever he gives for the time being, unless he is also financed for manure to be put into the land and unless he is enabled wherever possible to use better instruments and even better machinery, it will not be possible to improve the condition of the ryot. Sir, see what other countries especially, America and Russia have been able to do. It is very well known that in Russia they have been able to evolve a Five Years' Plan which they say had been carried out within four years and that is a standing example of what can be done by a determined Government. Large scale agriculture, the importation of machinery and other instruments and also the control of agriculture in such a way that their produce have increased so much as 2½ times what it was before. This is what they have demonstrated in Russia during the last five years. If that can be done in one country, I do not see any reason why we should not try to organize our chief industry, namely, agriculture, and get as much benefit out of it as possible. In this connexion I should also observe that much of the present position of agriculture is due to the fact that we have been concentrating our attention on research and experiments. They are necessary things, no doubt. Without them of course no progress will be possible. But along with research and experiment, it is necessary to bring about an organization whereby the results of these researches and experiments can be taken to the country, made to be accepted and adopted by the people in order to enable the ryot to carry out these improvements. All these things should go hand in hand.

"Hitherto the Directors of Agriculture have been persons who have 3 p devoted their life to the improvements of particular agricultural products. I am now glad to be able to say that the present administrative head of the department has taken charge of this work of organization and has actually started it by tackling the question of cotton. He has begun helping to introduce a pure variety of cambodia cotton wherever it is grown and I believe he has got a scheme for extending the same scheme for karunganni as well as pulichai cottons. Such a programme would place the inferior varieties out of the market altogether and if he arranges that good and selected seeds are given to the ryots at the proper time, he would have achieved the object for which we have been yearning and would have enabled the ryot to get probably between Rs. 15 to Rs. 25 per acre more than what he has been getting hitherto. Taking into consideration the large acreage under cotton, this will mean a great deal indeed to the ryots of our Province. If you will only extend this to other crops and also this organization is made available not only for purposes of distributing pure seeds but also for purposes of supplying implements and instruments, the supply of

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [21st March 1932

manure, and if there is better understanding between the various departments intended for the betterment of the villager and for a proper co-operation and conjoint action on the part of them all, the lot of our ryots will be much improved. Sir, in the past, we have been saying that there has not been the same sort of co-operation and understanding between the various departments—the Agricultural department, Co-operative department and Industries—as there should be. Sir, it has been said that agriculture is an industry which does not pay. It can be made to pay in one of two ways—either the produce should be so improved qualitatively and quantitatively as to pay more or for the spare time which the ryot has some other kind of employment should be found. Herein comes the place which the Industries department could occupy. Unless the industrialists come to the help of the ryot by finding employment for his spare time of this ryot, I do not think the position of the agriculturists will be very much improved. On this account, Sir, I have been advocating a standing committee consisting of the Director of Agriculture, the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the Director of Industries and a few non-official members, which should meet every quarter or at such other convenient times and come to an agreement as to how to proceed in the matter and organize their work and determine what sort of new undertakings should be taken up. They may also periodically review the work that has been done. It was in that view also that I have suggested the appointment of an officer, the Development Commissioner, who will be having all the three departments mentioned under him. The best thing is the formation of a Standing Committee of officials and non-officials who will exchange views and lay down a sort of programme for six months or for a year and then meet again to see how the whole thing has worked. No doubt the hon. Minister will say that in the present financial stringency, it will not be possible to appoint a Development Commissioner, but if that is not accepted, I would submit that he will favourably consider the suggestion regarding the formation of a Standing Committee. But I warn the hon. the Minister for Development that there is no use of having a committee of the sort we are having—the advisory committees for the Agricultural department, the Veterinary department, the Forest department and for roads. It is only the other day that one of the hon. Members of this Council doubted whether he yet continued to be a Member of the Road Board—as he had not received any communication of meeting of the Board for quite a long time. If the hon. Minister means business he ought to entrust this Committee with some definite powers—I do not mean to say that they are to be controlling committees or anything like that. They should be in close touch with what is going on and see what is actually done and suggest means then and there. I want that the hon. Minister will adopt my suggestion. This committee will take a comprehensive view of the whole thing and it is necessary if they are to make improvements in Agriculture.

"Sir, there is want of touch between those who are working in the research or experimental sections and the actual agriculturists and

21st March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

they are not always in touch with what is going on in the fields. They are theoretically concerned with what is good seed or what is good manure; but they do not pay sufficient attention to what actually obtains in the fields. Such a want of touch will disappear with the appointment of a committee of the nature I have mentioned where the non-official members will be able to supply the information as to what obtains actually in the fields; so that instead of trying theoretically to evolve what is the best, they will be able to pay more attention to the practical side of the question. There are ever so many considerations which they do not take into account—for instance the question of finance, the habits of the ryots, their poverty and the rest. If the difficulties of the ryots are understood by the officers of the department, there will be better co-operation between the ryots and the officers of the department. The non-official members of the Committee will be a medium through which these could be brought to the notice of the department, and certainly there will be better co-operation between the officers and the ryots. I would very strongly plead for the formation of the committee.

" Sir, I shall mention only one more point for the consideration of the hon. Minister. Live-stock is necessary for the agriculturist in his agricultural operations. Safeguarding and protecting of cattle is one of the main duties on the part of the Government in India. The periodical epidemics which these cattle are subjected to are too well known. The fact is, Sir, that even now the agriculturists are not able to take advantage of the preventive measures which the Government are able to provide. Rinderpest is a cattle disease too well known and the loss of cattle on account of that disease is heavy. The Government have provided for the inoculation of cattle; but the complaint is that the ryots rarely take advantage of it. The Government should increase their supply of serum and try to make the inoculation more and more popular. But unfortunately, Sir, when we are thinking of inducing the ryots to take more and more advantage of these inoculations, we see the proposal by the Retrenchment Committee that the ryots should be charged for the inoculations—is this popularizing inoculation I wonder. It is admitted that the condition of the cattle is not good—they are not worth very much. It may be very easy to compare our country with other countries like England where they are more valuable and the agriculturists are in a better position. And, Sir, if in a poor country like India it is expected that the agriculturists will pay for inoculation of their cattle, it will be rather hard on them. While it is our duty to make inoculation popular, it is rather unsound that we should charge for these inoculations; and any such attempt will only place the hands of the clock back. Under these conditions, I would request the hon. the Minister to see that this particular recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee is not accepted by the Government. I shall be glad if the hon. Minister will make a good step forward by putting the whole thing on a proper footing and see that the suggestions are considered and make agriculture pay."

* **Mr. A. B. Shetty**:—" Mr. President, Sir, Mr. Sampson, when he was the Director of the Agricultural department, said that the Agricultural department is a development department and it should not be

crippled for want of funds. The Government have reduced the allotment for this department to 16·83 lakhs which means barely 1 per cent of the total expenditure of Government. They are having nearly half their revenue from lands but they spend only 1 per cent of the total expenditure on the Agricultural department. It has been calculated that in this Province, the Government are spending less than 6 pies per acre of cultivated land, while in America, they are spending as much as 6 annas per acre of cultivated land. The Government may say that America is a rich country and they can afford to spend so much on their land; but I believe, Sir, the Americans are shrewd businessmen. They believe that one of the best ways of investing public funds is in the improvement of agriculture. I understand that the Department of Agriculture here claims that as a result of their evolving new strains of paddy and introducing them in several parts of the Province they have added nearly 10 lakhs a year to the gain of the ryots from rice cultivation. If the profits accruing to the ryots from the adoption of the different improvements suggested so far by the department are to be calculated, we may take them as amounting to several crores of rupees. Government probably do not believe in spending money on the Agricultural department. In 1929 a reorganization scheme with a programme of development for ten years with a view to give effect to several of the recommendations of the Agricultural Commission was taken up and it was estimated to cost eventually Rs. 30 lakhs a year. I wish to know if the Government have given up that scheme. We have about 57 millions of acres of cultivable lands in this Province. Large areas of these lands are yet untouched by the department. The department has only 166 demonstrators now. Nearly 40 per cent of the taluks are still unprovided with demonstrators. The productivity of our land also is very poor when compared with what it is in several countries of the West. The average yield of paddy per acre is one-third of what it is in Italy. The average yield of cotton per acre is only one-fifth of what it is in Egypt. It is no good improving the quality or increasing the outturn of the cultivator's produce unless we can make him get better price for his produce. There has been a definite drop in the price of paddy. Two years ago, the agricultural report said that judging from the world position, we cannot expect any rise in the price of rice in the near future. This is a matter for serious consideration by the Government. What is the fall in the price of rice due to? Is it due to increase of imports and if so can the Government take measures to prohibit or restrict the imports from foreign places like Japan or Burma? The Agricultural department must also take up for consideration the question of growing more profitable crops in rotation with rice. Government must also create better facilities for marketing the agricultural produce. The Agricultural Commission have recommended the establishment of well-regulated markets. I ask whether the Government have paid any attention to this recommendation.

"I understand that there is a proposal to concentrate the work of livestock improvement at Hosur and direct it primarily to breeding better draught cattle leaving the improvement of milk supply to take

21st March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

care of itself. If the Government propose to have a farm for the improvement of livestock only at Hosur, I want to know how they propose to transport these breeding bulls to distant parts of the Presidency. I believe the railway charge is very high for transport of cattle and unless cattle are transported by slow goods train, we shall have to pay prohibitive charges. When cattle are sent to long distances, the railway people allow them to be unloaded after a distance of 200 miles. But it has to be done at the owner's risk. The question of transport charges must be considered, if Government want to have only one farm for the whole Presidency. Then again, about the improvement of milk supply. There is a great demand for heavy milkers. Why should the Government neglect this matter of improving the milk supply of cattle?

"Another proposal is that of abolishing the Taliparamba school. This is the only agricultural middle school which the Government are now maintaining in this Province. As suggested by the Director in the report the Government could very well consider the institution of short courses in this school on fruit cultivation, poultry farming, dairying and such other matters. Why should the Government think of closing the school? After all they cannot expect much saving by closing the school. They cannot dispense with the staff. The buildings are there. So I ask the Government to consider this question and see whether they cannot provide for a short course of instruction for practical farmers in the school. They can also provide short courses on practical agriculture to teachers of elementary schools after they finish their training course. This would make it possible to give an agricultural bias to the curriculum in our higher elementary schools. I suggested last year that Government should consider the question of admitting a larger number of students in the Agricultural College. I am glad to hear that the Selection Committee appointed last year for admitting students to the College has also made a similar proposal. Government have spent a large sum of money on the building of the College. They are giving education at a large cost. They could without much difficulty and without much extra expenses admit more students in this College. I ask the hon. Minister to consider this question. I also commend to his consideration another proposal which has been made by the Agricultural Department, viz., the institution of a short course for farmers in this College."

* Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, this is one of the departments in which the cost of running the show has increased very steadily from year to year. I think the increase is about 5¼ lakhs of rupees. It has been increasing by 1 lakh every year. Although for the next year on account of retrenchments we have temporarily budgeted for rather less amount, yet I should like to know whether the gradual increase has been on the right lines and in the right direction. I want to know whether they have carried out the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. They have picked out some out of these recommendations and have given effect to

[Mr. Mahmud Schamnad] [21st March 1932

them because they are less costly and cheap. They have put off such of those recommendations which to be given effect to would involve greater expenditure. If the recommendations of the Commission are to be given effect to fully, we would require about 30 lakhs of rupees. Now what is the object of carrying out researches and manufacturing improved implements. All these are intended to improve the agricultural resources of the Province and to educate the ryots in the improved methods of agriculture and thus enable them to get a better outturn. Have any steps been taken to bring home to them the advantages of adopting improved methods of agriculture? The only means of educating these ryots is by employing larger number of demonstrators. It is only by bringing home to the minds of the ryots the results of the experiments and other researches that you can make these agriculturists adopt modern methods of agriculture. Now you have got only a very few demonstrators, almost at the rate of one per taluk. He is also required to keep a large number of registers and correspondence which takes a major portion of his time. Unless you increase the number of demonstrators it is high time that you close the shop. Then, you may confine your attention only to Demonstration Farms and Research Institutes until you are in a position to spend sufficient money to employ a large number of demonstrators. I think it will be necessary to have at least one demonstrator, say for half a dozen villages. These demonstrators must persuade the ryots to place one or two acres of their lands at the disposal of the Government and they (demonstrators) must carry out improved methods of agriculture on those lands at the expense of the ryots. I think the ryots would be quite willing to do so, if the Government undertake to pay the difference between the previous year's yield and the yield of the year in question to the ryots. They must undertake to make up any loss if there is any loss."

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"The demonstrators?"

Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur:—"Not the demonstrators, but the Government. The Government must authorize them to undertake. In that case there will be any number of ryots ready to place their lands at the disposal of the demonstrators to be cultivated at their expense. I hope the Government will try and bring home to the minds of the ryots the advantages of improved methods of agriculture."

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Large amounts of money have been spent on the Agricultural College. The question is whether the instructions that are imparted there filter down to the agriculturists of the land. Knowing as I do as an agriculturist, it is not the case. Some method must be devised whereby the education that is imparted to these students must be made useful to the ryots.

"One point which I wish to bring to the notice of the Government is this: large amounts of money are spent on the so-called Nanjanad Seed

Farm. I wish to know whether the Government have made enquiries to find out whether that Institution has been of any real use to the potatoe growing population of Nilgiris. According to the Administration Report that Institution was able to produce only four-to five-fold crops. But I may say there are many villages in the Nilgiris where these experts never trod over and they have been able to produce from 12 to 15 fold. These village people had not the benefits of experts or the aid of the Agricultural Department people with regard to the instructions that are necessary for the cultivation of potatoes. The staff engaged there does not trouble themselves to go to villages and give them instructions in the way of adopting improved methods of agriculture. So the time has come when the Government must seriously consider whether they are going to be wasting such a lot of money over this Agricultural College. If people who are really interested in the cultivation of potatoes are drawn together and formed as an Advisory Committee they will give best advice with regard to the adoption of improved methods of agriculture, I think that will be really serving the poor agriculturists of Nilgiris.

"Another point which I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is this: huge money is spent on botanical and public gardens. Provision has been made in the Budget to the tune of Rs. 9,000 for the pay of the Curator. Some years back this Curator was in charge of Potatoe Farm and was also in charge of various other things in the Nilgiris. Now this Curator has been relieved of all the supervision or the controlling power over the Nanjanad potatoe farm. The Ootacamund municipality has been asked to look after them and they are given Rs. 2,500 annually. The number of officers in these places has also been increased. I do not think that men with high qualifications and attainments are required. Maistries with practical experience will meet the case. At a time like this when retrenchments are going on in every department, to have these officers and close the labour schools that we have without rhyme or reason is not reasonable. If the Government are really anxious to help the ryots this extraordinary expenditure of having supervisors and agricultural experts should be put a stop to and some methods must be found to see whether such supervision could not be carried on cheaply. I am suggesting to the hon. Minister if they are keen on having a Curator he may be asked to supervise the fruit gardens in Nilgiris Nanjanad Farm and other places and parks. If that is done I think there will be a good lot of saving."

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"If it is remembered that 3-3 p.m.
nearly 90 per cent of the population of this Presidency depend upon agricultural pursuit and if it is also remembered that as much as about Rs. 7½ crores of the revenue is derived from land, the importance and the responsibility of the portfolio which is in charge of the hon. Second Minister makes itself manifest. Sir, it is also obvious that agricultural pursuit has of late become very unremunerative and the agriculturists not even derive a fair return from the land. But whatever that may

be, I do not think that in our Presidency or for the matter of that, in our country, we will have for a long time to come any occupation except agricultural pursuits in which a large number of population could be engaged. I for my part do not feel sorry that our country has not become so much industrialized as the countries in the West. The sufferings which the industrial countries of the West and the far East are undergoing, especially in the face of the world slump in trade and in the face of the economic depression, make me feel that more and more encouragement must be given in agricultural occupations not merely from the point of view of safeguarding our country from the economic depression but also from the point of view, the larger point of view if I may so put it, of national well-being. Whatever country you may look to, you will see that a man devoutly attached to his land is regarded as an honest citizen and, if I may venture to suggest, nobody is so much tied down to his land as the agriculturist is. Even in Western countries, I am told that the army which is the power and backbone both in times of peace and of war to the country is mostly recruited from the peasant class. That is because the peasant by his training and by force of circumstances is compelled to rely more and more upon himself and the qualities of self-reliance and physical sturdiness which these agricultural pursuits develop. I am mentioning these considerations just to emphasize the importance attached to agriculture and the well-being of the agriculturists. I know that for the past few years larger attention not only to the details but also to the policies to be pursued by the Agricultural Department is being paid. But I do feel that in spite of the researches and experiments that have been carried on to improve the type of manure, the type of implement and the type of seeds—and I have repeatedly made the complaint on the floor of this House—the results of these costly experiments and researches have not been so popularized in order to enable the small ryots to take advantage of the conclusions arrived at. I feel, very strongly that the results that we have achieved should be not merely confined to the archives of Agricultural College, or of the department or of the various agricultural offices, but must filter down and possibly percolate to the agriculturists. That complaint, I have noticed, has been reiterated by the previous speakers. Therefore I appeal to the hon. Minister and the new Director of Agriculture, about whose capacity so much has been spoken of, to pay special attention to this aspect of the matter. As a matter of fact I find from the Administration Report that several improvements have been made in the seeds of paddy, in the method of conserving manure. Several cases of examination of the soil have been undertaken by this department. But the conclusions to which these experiments and examinations have led the Agricultural Department must have been given wide publicity. The three main stages in which the agriculturist is interested are first of all (1) preparation of the soil for the cultivation of the crop (2) preparation of the manure and (3) preparation of the seed. In the preparation of the soil for the cultivation of the crop, various suggestions have been made by the department for the proper manuring of the

21st March 1932] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

soil and for the proper preparation and conservation of the manure. Limited as is the natural manurial capacity of our country I suggest that steps should be taken to supplement the natural manure by the use of artificial manure. Sir, India is a country where cattle is in existence in such large numbers that it will not be too much to say that we are not making proper use of this potential source of manure. In my district a European company has been started to prepare manure from cattle bones. I do not profess to have technical knowledge or know the process of preparing manure from cattle bones. But I do suggest that it is high time that the Agricultural Department takes steps to convert these cattle bones which are now going to waste into artificial manure so as to supplement the natural sources of manure of this Presidency.

"The second stage in which the agriculturist is interested is the raising of the crop. While speaking on this matter, I would also invite the attention of the hon. Minister in charge that so far as pests are concerned, even though there is a special section attached to the Agricultural College to concert measures to prevent and fight the different pests that affect the crops, the conclusions to which this Department has come to with regard to the process by which these pests can be destroyed, are not made familiar to the ryots. I would also request the hon. Ministers in charge to see that his department would also take steps to advise the ryots as to the necessity of rotation of crops. Sir, to me the world of agriculture, not only in our country but in all the countries of the world, is conservative by instinct and by training and it is very difficult to persuade them to give up their age long habits and age long customs. However, in view of the serious risk to which the agricultural pursuits are being exposed on account of the present slump in price and also on account of the present depression in trade, it is high time that the State takes the initiative in advising the ryots of the benefits of rotation of crops. As a matter of fact, several educated agriculturists have given up the cultivation of paddy and have taken to the cultivation of commercial crops such as turmeric, tobacco, chillies and so forth. But the generality of our agriculturists have no knowledge and have not had the benefit of education. Owing to want of education they do not know the ways that are practised in other advanced countries. They are denied this knowledge and means of improving their economic condition. It has been pointed out that the whole question of embarking upon schemes of general welfare will depend upon the improvement of the economic capacity of the agriculturists, I would urge upon the hon. the Second Minister to pay more attention to supplement the ordinary income of the agriculturists which has now fallen very low by encouraging him to take up bye-occupations such as poultry farming, dairy farming, fruit gardening, etc. There are many such ways of earning supplementary income by the agriculturists and it is high time that they are properly encouraged and persuaded to undertake these pursuits.

5 "Sir, the third factor in which the agriculturist is interested after he has raised his crop is the marketing of the produce. In that direction, Sir, I agree that though we have on the floor of this House several times urged the Government to take steps on this behalf yet no attempt has been made to afford facilities for better marketting. In this connexion while I agree that the fall in prices is not peculiar to India alone, but is world-wide, yet apart from the world-wide condition, I still feel that much can be made by way of co-operative marketing. Recently I had the opportunity of going through a certain literature supplied by a friend of the conditions prevailing in Denmark. There we have a small country mainly depending on poultry farming and dairy farming for its prosperity. The country has so much advanced in these industries that to-day the individual income *per capita* is ten times what it was some twenty years ago. And this is solely, I am told, by co-operative marketing of eggs and butter by organized export and sale of these produce in England. To-day the trade has become so flourishing that Denmark's eggs and butter have become an indispensable factor on an Englishman's table. I am pointing this out only to show that even in this country, however restricted may be the views of the agriculturists, an attempt may be made to popularize such a movement.

"Speaking about crops I want to make a particular mention of sugarcane which plays a large role in the agricultural produce of our Presidency. We find an increasing tendency on the part of our population to go more and more for refined sugar, however valueless it may be from the point of view of dietetics, as it is no more than a devitalized food. The result is that to-day in spite of the increased price paid for refined sugar, jaggery still sells at its old price. Therefore I would suggest steps should be taken by the department to educate them in the process of converting sugarcane into refined sugar. Sir, many agriculturists with whom I have moved have confessed to me that it is a very sad feature that while the price of refined sugar has gone up the price of cane sugar has remained stagnant and that the demand for that is getting less and consequently the cultivation of sugarcane is becoming less and less profitable.

"Another point to which I would invite the attention of the hon. Minister is that of late a large number of agriculturists have taken to the installation of small pumps for lifting water from their wells or water-courses. Generally a six-horse-power pump is being used. But on account of the increase in duty people who would have otherwise gone in for this power have given up that idea. I request the hon. Minister to intervene on behalf of the agriculturists and address the Government of India to exempt small pumps of the power of six horses from this increased duty so as to enable the agriculturists to have more pumping sets installed.

"Then, Sir, much has been talked about the introduction of tractors. Not only in the case of small holdings but in other cases also the introduction of tractors has not been an unqualified success. So, I

21st March 1932] [Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar]

am emboldened to say that the use of tractors has been successful only where there are large numbers of acres in an extensive plot owned by one person and in one setting.

" Sir, next to land the agriculturist is interested in his cattle; in fact next to his land his main capital investment is his cattle. Therefore it is a very sad tale that I find in the Administration Report for 1930–31 that as many as a lakh of cattle have died of contagious diseases. This huge loss most of which could have been prevented, because I find that the rinderpest has accounted for the death of half a lakh of them, has caused a great strain on the poor agriculturist. I am sure the Minister will see that steps are immediately taken not only to improve the breed of the cattle but also that these avoidable diseases are made a thing of the past.

" With these few remarks I would suggest, as I started, that enlisting the co-operation of the public with Agricultural department must be the aim of the department, so that whatever valuable information that may be gathered by the department must be made available to the agriculturist. I would in this connexion highly recommend to the Agricultural department to take to the cry of 'Back to land,' and to popularize agriculture as a proper and necessary occupation of a citizen."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Mr. President, Sir, from a perusal of the report of the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the past few years and from my own experience of its working I am constrained to believe that the economic side of agriculture is entirely neglected by the department. I can substantiate my statement by citing one or two illustrations. First of all the department seems to forget that agriculture is a business first as any other. For, as in other business, unless it is a paying proposition, how can the ryot adopt the results of the experiments carried on by the department? Sir, from the reports of the Director of Agriculture I find that demonstrators have been going about villages making demonstrations in the farms of the ryots themselves; and according to the report, the demonstrators were not able to show to the ryots that it is profitable to adopt improved and scientific methods of cultivation. They were simply able to produce larger yield. But the increase in the yield was not commensurate with the increased cost of production. When the ryot is not able to get more money by adopting the improved methods may I ask 'of what use is all your scientific methods of cultivation'?

" Secondly, emphasis has been laid by two Members of this House namely, Mr. Schamnad and Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, on one point. And that is this: that attempts ought to be made to provide better marketing facilities for the ryots. Even before the introduction of scientific methods of cultivation the ryot ought to be assured of a better method of disposing of the yield of his land so that he could get more money than he was hitherto getting. Otherwise of what use is the increased yield if you are not able to sell them. I am not sure whether the hon.

Minister has read the recent enactment of the Ministry of Agriculture in England. It was only in October 1931 that they passed what is known as the Agricultural Produce Marketing Act. According to the provisions of that Act, where a majority of producers desire a marketing organization the Ministry is empowered under that Act to compel all the producers to join that organization. Sir, this is a very good move and the hon. Minister can easily bring in a Bill here on the lines of that Act.

" Then, Sir, the hon. Member from Coimbatore and the hon. Member from Bellary made fervent appeals to the hon. Minister to interest young men in agriculture. I should like to associate myself with the views expressed by these gentlemen. But I would only add that educated unemployed young men in particular should be enabled to make a living by means of agriculture. In this connexion, I should once again draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that in England as recently as October 1931 the Ministry of Agriculture has passed what is known as the Agricultural Land Holdings Act, and under the Act power is given to settle on holding of five acres or more unemployed young people. The Ministry is given also power to buy seeds for them and supply the necessary capital for cultivation. The measure has been very widely welcomed and is receiving support from all quarters. While such an attempt is being made in a pre-eminently industrial country, I for one fail to understand why our hon. Minister should not introduce a similar Bill in this country where agriculture is pre-eminiently the sole occupation of the people. Perhaps he may not be aware of the fact that as much as 23 per cent of the area of this Presidency is available for cultivation but is lying waste. In the Season and Crop Report for 1930–31 I find that out of a total of 91 million acres of land, which is the area of the Presidency, about 21 million acres are cultivable waste. That is to say, 21 million acres of cultivable land is not being cultivated. I would appeal to the hon. Minister to take power and see that at any rate a considerable portion of that, if not the whole, is allotted among the unemployed young people in the presidency, so that they may make a living out of it."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" How much of that is zamindari land? "

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" My friend asks me, how much of that is zamindari land? Though I am not in a position to give a straight answer to his question from this report, I submit that there is not much difference between zamindari and Government land. Both can be made available. It was only the other day that I read in the papers that the Sind Zamindars have started a scheme on the lines I have suggested. They have agreed to give eight to fifteen acres of land to each educated unemployed young person. They are so patriotic as even to supply these youths with the capital and the agricultural implements necessary for purposes of cultivation.

" Lastly I have to say one word about the appointment of the Director of Agriculture. Before I proceed further I wish to make it very

21st March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

clear to all Members of the House, and particularly to the hon. Minister, that I have nothing to say against the present Director. In fact I have great regard for Mr. Ramamoorthy and I count him as one of the finest of our Civilians. Nor should I be understood to be speaking on behalf of any particular individual to whom any injustice may have been done by the appointment of Mr. Ramamoorthy. I am only raising this question on a matter of principle. I find that the report of the Royal Agricultural Commission is very definite in this matter and gives a definite lead to the hon. Minister in the matter of the appointment of the Director. I would read to the House the relevant passage. 4 p

" In page 630, paragraph 547 the report says:

'The Directorship of Agriculture must obviously be a selection post outside the cadre of class I appointments. . . We have also stated in the same paragraph that the incumbent should continue to be selected as a rule from the Agricultural service, but that, in the event of a suitable officer not being available from that service, the selection of an officer from the Educational service should be considered.'

" Then they go on to say:

'The Director of Agriculture should be an officer combining administrative capacity with high scientific qualifications. . . The Directorship of Agriculture is one of the key posts in rural development and that agricultural advance must in a very great degree depend upon the suitability of the officer appointed. It may happen that the administrative capacity we postulate may not be forthcoming in the Agricultural department of a particular province. In such circumstances the Local Government should in the first instance turn to the Agricultural department of another province and, failing that, to the Indian Civil Service.'

" From the above it would be clear, Sir, that the Minister has first to look to the Agricultural department itself. Failing that he must look up to the Education department. If he fails even here, he will have to select one from the Agricultural department of a neighbouring Province. It is only if all these sources fail that one from the Civil Service should be selected. I ask whether the hon. Minister has made even the slighest attempts in these directions. I admit that the present officer has done very useful work in the short time he has heen in office and therefore eminently fitted for the place. But on principle I object to a Civil Service man being appointed to that office. Sir, the Agricultural Commission appointed by His Majesty the King Emperor has made definite recommendations in regard to this. This Commission cost the Indian tax-payer no less than 14 lakhs of rupees. Are you going to throw that report into the waste paper basket saying, ' it is not binding on us '?

" Another point on which I wish to say a few words is about Mr. Hameed Khan's cut motion regarding the paucity of Mussalman officers in this department. I find that on the 1st of April 1931 among the gazetted officers out of the sanctioned strength of 55 there was only one Mussalman. In the list of the non-gazetted officers drawing a salary over 100, out of a sanctioned strength of 282 there was not even one Mussalman. Among the non-gazetted officers drawing salaries below Rs. 100 out of a sanctioned strength of 303 I find there were only seven Mussalmans. In the list of non-gazetted officers drawing less than

Rs. 35, out of the sanctioned strength of 155 I find only 15. I leave it at that. It is for the hon. Minister to draw his own conclusions."

* Sir A. P. PATRO:—" The hon. Minister should have some time to reply to the various suggestions as regards the policy of the department and I will not therefore take up much of the time. I am indeed very glad to know that the hon. Member representing Bellary and the hon. Member representing Coimbatore have made very useful and practical suggestions in regard to the modification of the agricultural policy of this Province. A suggestion has been made by the hon. Member representing Coimbatore that a committee of the departments should be constituted so that it may meet periodically with a view to see that there is co-ordination in the work of the departments and that the money that is expended may be utilized better for the benefit of the people. If that committee were to sit and deliberate together then a great deal of friction among departments will be saved. It should not merely be an advisory committee but it should be one having a constructive programme to be carried out within a definite period. If that is done, the appointment of a committee will be useful. It is possible for anyone to make any suggestions in regard to directions in which agricultural policy can be improved. I am very much surprised to see that for a population of 60 millions of people the budget provision is reduced from 20 to 15 lakhs. When there is such a great reduction in the Budget estimate of the Agricultural department it is useless for any member to make any suggestions so as to carry out the policy into effect. We all say here that the ryots should be benefited by the experimental work done by the department but when we see that there is a reduction of expenditure it is impossible to expect that result of the experiment could spread to the ryots. Without increasing the expenditure involved there are directions in which improvements could be made within the existing limitations of finance. The first I would insist on more research work and the application of research in connexion with crops like paddy and sugarcane to the ryots. Experiments in this direction are carried on in Anakapalle, Samalkota and other places but very much remains to be done for the spread of experience obtained therein to the villages. I would insist on new funds expended but it is necessary that useful and practical work must be done in regard to the spread of the results already obtained. The hon. Minister himself should put his heart into the work and do what is really practicable in the matter. In this connexion I would draw his attention to what is being done in the south of France and Italy in connexion with crop rotation. They call it the 'fresh crop' system. When the agricultural fields were destroyed and agriculture was dislocated and when practically no adjustment was possible for the purpose of increasing the material welfare of the ryots these two Governments have taken the great task to try the fresh crop system which is based on a co-operative basis. Co-operation in the field of agriculture has already done wonders. In the south of France and Italy we find the small holdings which were in existence long time back and before the war are no longer existing but that they are all consolidated and the whole responsibility of organizing and doing the work is based on

21st March 1932] [Sir A. P. Patro]

a co-operative system. This has led to very great improvement in the material condition of the people. The second direction that I would ask the department to pay more attention to is in the application of labour-saving devices in agriculture. They must see that the use of mechanical implements are encouraged. Again in the south of Europe there are very many cheap implements which are an improvement over the present conditions existing here. If these are demonstrated in suitable centres the ryots are willing to take them up. After all I am not asking for anything new but only to improve the present system. The third point to be attended to is the mechanical appliances in irrigation. The lift system and the tube well system must be popularized. If experiments are carried on in these directions they will be helpful to the ryots. The fourth is that co-operation in agriculture has been found to be successful in other parts of the world and I do not see we cannot apply those principles of co-operation in agriculture. There are three varieties of co-operation in an agricultural village. Practical work may be taken up by the agricultural department. If the large farm system is not suitable, the middle farm system could be developed. The fifth is the improvement of the live-stock. I have only stated the heads of subjects to indicate the directions in which improvements may be made. Though I know that Government is faced with financial difficulties it must not stand in the way of extending the experiments to different areas. I am sure the Government will pay attention to these matters and show us a greater and more appreciative record of work."

* Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.—" My hon. Friend Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar was saying that in Australia the State was giving the seed and the manure and allowing the farmer to reap his crops. In Madras the seed is charged for if not at market price at least at a higher rate than the market price. I wonder how the State is giving the seeds and manure free and allowing the farmer to cut off the crops and take them himself. No doubt so far as Madras is concerned the supply of seeds is certainly much appreciated. The agriculturist gets good seed at ordinary market rate and has not got to pay anything extra for the quality that he gets. But one complaint has to be made that the supply of seeds may be made available to every agriculturist in the land. It is only then that the result of the researches of Government will be available to the ryots. One great defect which I have to draw the attention of the hon. Minister is the want of demonstrators. We have now, as it has been already pointed out about 150 demonstrators in a big Presidency like Madras. We must have at least one demonstrator to at least two or three villages. It is only then that something substantial can be done by the demonstrators. To illustrate my point I would quote an instance which happened within my own experience. I suggested to a friend of mine that he would do well to grow sugarcane in his land and so I asked the department to lend him the aid of a demonstrator. The demonstrator came there and started the growing of the crop and then immediately after he was called away somewhere else and my poor friend could not get the advantage of the demonstrator who started the thing and so he had to suffer and lose very

heavily in that concern. I do not blame the poor demonstrator but I blame the system. If only the demonstrator was made available freely and frequently in each village such a thing would not have happened. In the present instance the man concerned had to suffer heavily for want of guidance.

-15 .m. "So I would humbly request the hon. Minister to see that the number of demonstrators is increased as largely as possible, and it is only then that the Agricultural department will make itself really useful to the public at large. I would also draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Report of the Agricultural College Selection Committee which has drawn pointed attention to the fact that the Agricultural College must be thrown open for a larger number of students than at present. The Committee has gone through the whole question in fairly good detail and we are convinced that with the addition of a few thousands of rupees every year the College can be made to give instruction to double the number of students. Certainly this is a matter which is worth considering, because it does not cost them very much. We are already spending lakhs over this College and a few thousands more will not matter much in view of the result that may be obtained therefrom, namely, that the College will thereby be enabled to give instruction to double the number of students that are undergoing training there, at present."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar referred to the speech of the Leader of the Opposition, the other day who called the departments under my charge as the Cindrella of Government. I am quite sure he (the Leader of the Opposition) never wanted to detract from the value or importance of the department. What he wanted to say was that enough funds were not placed at my disposal. Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar was good enough to say that the Agricultural department is doing useful work in some directions. The main items with which this department is concerned are as follow:—

(1) supply of improved seeds;
(2) good manures;
(3) proper implements for ploughing;
(4) how to grow crops in rotation; and
(5) how to deal with diseases.

"I would like to give an idea as to how the department is dealing with paddy and cotton seeds. The Paddy Specialist has already released fifteen improved strains and they are spreading rapidly in various parts of the Province; besides numerous strains are in experimental stage. In 1930–31 the Paddy Specialist alone distributed 73½ tons of seed to the ryots. The demand for seed is more than what the department can supply. Steps are being taken to form paddy-seed farms to multiply improved strains on a large scale. In 1929–30, the area under improved strains of paddy under cultivation in the Presidency was 1,513,680 acres. The Cotton Specialist has produced improved strains of Cambodia, Karunganni, Hagari and Nandyal cotton. In 1929–30, the area under improved strains of cotton in the Presidency was 260,187 acres and the

21st March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

average yield of cotton in this Presidency can be taken as 87 lb. lint, and the average yield of improved strains of the department is as follows:—

'*Cambodia.*—Departmental seed results in 300 lb. lint as against 250 lb. lint ordinary.

'*Karunganni.*—Gives 120 lb. as against 100 lb.

'*Hagari and Nandyal.*—55 lb. as against 50 lb.

"The value of the increased yield obtained by the ryots of the Presidency, if calculated, will be appreciable.

"As regards irrigated Cambodia cotton, the area cultivated is roughly a lakh of acres in the Coimbatore district. Pure seed is being used on about 15,000 acres. Another 15,000 to 25,000 acres is grown with fairly pure seed. About 60,000 acres are not cultivated with such seed. Steps are being taken to provide 60,000 acres with better seed and the use of such seed will add Rs. 10 lakhs to the annual income of the ryots at the present prices. The Director is making up such a scheme with the help of the Indian Cotton Committee. Similar provision will also be made for cotton cultivation in Bellary, Kurnool and Tinnevelly. My Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, complained that no schemes have been undertaken for the Ceded districts. I may tell him that Government have got a scheme—the Bellary Dry Farm Scheme—and they are going to apply for a grant to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. Later on it may be possible to get through a scheme for the red soil. Then he talked about the sub-soil survey initiated in his regime when he was Minister. I am afraid there is nothing to show that anything conclusive has been arrived at and so the matter was dropped.

"Then he referred to the livestock and the conditions prevailing at the Hosur Farm. On the authority of a friend of his, he tells us that things are getting from bad to worse in the farm. Unless my hon. Friend tells me exactly how things are deteriorating, I cannot go into the matter.

"The next complaint is that stud-bulls are not made available and the people do not derive any benefit or advantage therefrom. I want to know why he made this statement. The department is paying premia for bulls maintained for stud purposes according to the instructions of the department, in order to improve the breeds. Some of the local bodies have gone in for these stud-bulls. The Coimbatore District Board is one of those boards which has taken advantage of this scheme and, if there is anything wrong, I am quite sure Mr. Ratnasabhapathi Mudaliyar would have brought it to the notice of Government. My complaint is that local bodies are not willing to take full advantage of this scheme. If there are any complaints in the direction, I am certainly prepared to look into the matter.

"Then a reference is made about the work being done in the New South Wales by the Agricultural Department and he suggested that the same should be adopted in this Presidency. I may perhaps tell my

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [21st March 1932

hon. Friend that the same work is being done by this Government through the demonstrators. As regards improved ploughs and guntakas, etc., the Special Engineer has been at work and the results will be made available to the ryots soon.

30 n. " My Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, has made a number of suggestions which deal more with the Co-operative Department than with the Agricultural Department. As the work of these two departments is so intimately connected with each other, I welcome his suggestions. In the direction of supplying pure and better cotton seed, I am sure, the co-operative agencies can help the Agricultural Department a great deal. Then a suggestion was made that a Development Commissioner should be appointed to co-ordinate the work of the departments of Agriculture, Veterinary and Co-operation. I am afraid it is too late to consider the proposal of the kind but I am prepared to consider the alternative suggestion of constituting a standing committee to co-ordinate the work of these departments. Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar complained that there is want of touch between ryots and research workers.

" I am quite sure coming as he does from Coimbatore, he can easily realize the good work done by the research men there. These results are brought home to the ryots through the medium of fairs, exhibitions and leaflets. The demonstrators give a practical demonstration in the lands of the ryots themselves so that the neighbouring ryots may also benefit. So, the charge has no foundation. The Retrenchment Committee has recommended that a small fee should be charged for inoculation. I know the feeling is that, it should be free, but in these days of economic depression, it may not be possible to give the people a free service. My Friend, Mr. Shetty, wanted to know whether the Government have given up the idea of ten years' scheme of Mr. Anstead. Yes, Government had to give it up temporarily for want of funds. If and when funds are available, the ten years' scheme will be taken up."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" It is time. "

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" In the short time at my disposal I have not been able to reply to all the points raised especially with regard to the import of rice into this Presidency and the appointment of a Civilian as Director of Agriculture raised by Messrs. Shetty and Arasu respectively. I shall take some other opportunity to do so."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXI—Agriculture—Transferred, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,74,500 was put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XXII—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES—TRANSFERRED

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I move—

> ' *that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,70,500 under Demand XXII, Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred* '."

21st March 1932]

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 8,70,500 *for Civil Veterinary Services be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" The hon. Minister is a very genial person in whom all of us are interested. The subjects of which he is in charge are very important for nation-building purposes. But unfortunately Government have been very niggardly in spending money on the departments which he administers. Particularly the Civil Veterinary department has been a very neglected department. From the list of out motions on this Demand, it also looks as if very few people are interested in this subject. (An hon. Member: 'Not necessarily'.)

" The Serum Institute proposed to be started from next April is expected to give a saving of Rs. 2 lakhs to Government. The saving from this source might have been taken into consideration and no further retrenchment need have been made in this department. Rinderpest, according to the Director of Veterinary Services has become a permanent feature of this presidency. It would be interesting to know what research work the Special Officer for Rinderpest has done and what report he has submitted to Government. It is not enough if Government are able to provide a sufficient quantity of serum, they must also provide a sufficient number of men to inoculate the cattle. The ryots are suffering enormous loss through cattle epidemics for want of proper veterinary aid in the villages. We have less number of veterinary assistants in this Presidency in proportion to the number of cattle here than what they have in Bombay or Mysore. We shall have to multiply our veterinary staff at least eight times before we can reach the standard set by the Agricultural Commission. So it is very necessary that we should provide a sufficient number of men to do inoculation work and give proper veterinary aid in rural areas. The Agricultural Commission has proposed that there should be a Veterinary Reserve Corps which can be called up for duty in times of epidemic. I wish to know whether the Government have considered this suggestion at any time. The hon. Minister was referring a little time ago to the question of the levy of fees for inoculation. Government were levying fees for inoculation for some time but they have abolished it since 1926. The Agricultural Commission have definitely recommended that all levy of fees for inoculation against rinderpest or any other epidemic disease should be abandoned. Inoculation for rinderpest by the new serum simultaneous method is getting to be appreciated by the people and Government ought not to discourage it by seeking to levy fees.

" The head of this department is said to be in favour of increasing the number of touring officers in preference to opening new dispensaries. It is no doubt a good way of carrying veterinary aid to the villagers, but we must consider the other side also. It will be difficult to supervise the work of touring men. Touring men will not be of much use in cases which require continuous treatment. Touring men can be hardly expected to do much work when there is no rinderpest or any other epidemic in village. Government had a scheme

[Mr. A. B. Shetty] [21st March 1932

of opening six new hospitals or dispensaries every year. I am told they have not opened the dispensaries sanctioned for the current year and that they now contemplate the closing down of some of the existing hospitals and dispensaries. In answer to a question the other day the hon. Minister said that Government had decided to close down the dispensary at Udipi in South Kanara. I am credibly informed that the number of animals coming for treatment in this dispensary has increased of late.

"It is necessary that, in an important town like Udipi, there should be a dispensary. I hope the hon. the Minister will reconsider this question if it is not too late. I am also told that the drug supplied to our hospitals and dispensaries is not sufficient. These institutions run short of drugs before the year is out. It seems there is a new instrument for castration called the Burdizo castrator which has recently come into use; and people are said to appreciate it very much. There is a demand for it. The Government ought to supply these instruments to all the veterinary hospitals and touring men.

5 "Finally, Sir, I would ask the hon. the Minister to consider the question of raising the standard of veterinary education and of giving a better status to the men in the Veterinary services. The course can be extended to four years as in Lahore. The Veterinary College should be affiliated to the University and degrees ought to be offered in Veterinary Science. Several British Universities are offering degrees in Veterinary Science.

"The Government ought to consider also whether the department of live-stock which is now under the Agricultural department, cannot be brought under the Civil Veterinary Department. Live-stock improvement, animal nutrition and veterinary medicine ought to go together. In the Punjab as well as Bihar and Orissa the Live-stock department is said to be under the Veterinary department. I commend this matter also to the earnest consideration of the hon. the Minister."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again at 11 a.m. to-morrow."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1067 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1932, page 609 supra.]

Statement showing information regarding Ayurvedic, Unani and Siddha dispensaries working in South Arcot, Coimbatore and Salem districts in 1930–31.

District.	Name of the local board.	Place where the dispensary is located.	Whether Ayurvedic, Unani or Siddha.	Whether maintained by the local board or subsidized by Government.
South Arcot.	Chidambaram Taluk Board	Bhuvanagiri ..	Ayurvedic.	Local Board.
	Vriddhachalam Taluk Board.	Vriddhachalam.	Do.	Do.
	Do.	Kammapuram.	Unani ..	Subsidized by Government (Rs. 500 a year).
Coimbatore.	Coimbatore Taluk Board.	Madukkarai ..	Ayurvedic.	Local Board.
	Do.	Singanallur ..	Do.	Do.
	Gopichettipalaiyam Taluk Board.	Kavundapatti.	Do.	Do.
	Pollachi Taluk Board ..	Periapodu ..	Do.	Do.
	Coimbatore Municipal Council.	Jail road ..	Do.	Municipal.
	Do.	Big Bazaar street.	Do.	Do.
	Do.	Pappanayakanpalaiyam.	Do.	Do.
	Dharapuram Municipal Council.	Dharapuram ..	Do.	Do.
	Erode Municipal Council.	Erode	Do.	Do.
	Do.	Do.	Siddha ..	Do.
	Pollachi Municipal Council.	Pollachi ..	Ayurvedic.	Do.
	Tiruppur Municipal Council.	Tiruppur ..	Do.	Do.
Salem ..	Salem Municipal Council.	Gogai	Ayurvedic.	Do.
	Do.	Salem	Unani ..	Do.
	Do.	Shevapet ..	Siddha ..	Do.
	Dharmapuri Taluk Board.	Pallapatti ..	Unani ..	Subsidized by Government (Rs. 500 a year for the Rural Medical Practitioner and Rs. 200 for second-class midwife or Rs. 300 for first-class midwife).

Appendix II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1068 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1932, page 610 supra.]

Answers to clauses (a) to (g) and (j) of Question No. 750.

Q.—(*a*) In how many vattams the village headmen were fined or otherwise punished for non-collection of arrears of land revenue at the Jamabandi in May 1931 by the Deputy Collector, Chidambaram;

(*b*) in how many cases the orders of punishment were given effect to;

(*c*) whether any explanations were called for from the village headmen before the punishments were inflicted or the fines collected;

(*d*) if so, in how many cases were explanations recorded and if not, why not;

(*e*) in how many cases the fines were actually collected and what is the minimum and maximum fine imposed and the total amount thereof;

(*f*) in how many cases the village headmen in Chidambaram division were suspended at the Jamabandi in May 1931 and for what periods;

(*g*) whether the District Collector interfered with the orders of the Deputy Collector on appeal and if so in how many cases and for what reasons; and

(*j*) whether the Collector has called for or proposes to call for the files relating to the punishments inflicted on village headmen in Chidambaram division and take action thereon?

A.—(*a*) 30.

(*b*) 23.

(*c*) The village headmen were heard in person in all the cases.

(*d*) Explanations were recorded in 13 cases. In the remaining cases it was considered unnecessary to record the explanations.

(*e*) The total amount of fine imposed was Rs. 77 in 17 cases. The amount collected was Rs. 67 in 15 cases. The fines ranged from Rs. 2 to Rs. 5.

(*f*) Thirteen. The period of suspension ranged from three months to one year. The orders were enforced only in six cases.

(*g*) In one case the District Collector allowed an appeal on the ground that the village headman was a beginner in service.

(*j*) No.

21st March 1932]

APPENDIX III.

[Vide answer to question No. 1070 asked by Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1932, page 612 supra.]

Extract from the instructions, dated 15*th January* 1932.

In regard to picketing, an assembly of five or more persons is an unlawful assembly if gathered for an unlawful purpose such as picketing and can be dispersed, after warning, by force if necessary. But isolated picketers do not by themselves constitute an unlawful assembly and obviously cannot be dealt with by the use of lathis. In such cases, if the picketing is conspicuous, it may be necessary to have recourse to arrest and prosecution. All depends on the circumstances and discretion is left to District Magistrates to take what measures are suitable within the limits of the law.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 1071 asked by Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 21st March 1932, page 616 supra.]

Extract from the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, Press Communiqué No. 15, *dated Fort St. George, the* 7*th March* 1932.

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In the same article [a] it was alleged that two picketers named P. Krishna Rao and P. Sastri Raju were taken to the Robertsonpet Police Station at Masulipatam and were there severely caned. The article also includes what purports to be a statement by the two picketers in question in which it is stated that the Sub-Magistrate was present in the police station when they were beaten. The facts are as follows: The two individuals in question were found selling packets of contraband salt. They were ordered to go away but persisted in offering the salt for sale whereupon an attempt was made to disperse them by force; but as they persisted they were arrested and taken to the police station. The statements that they were beaten at the police station and that the Sub-Magistrate was present are definitely false; the Sub-Magistrate did not go to the police station at all that day.

*　　*　　*　　*

G. T. H. BRACKEN,
Chief Secretary.

a In the *Swarajya* of 23rd February 1932.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Tuesday, the 22nd March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D. I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moidoo Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur T. M.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S.A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Pannirselvam, Rao Bahadur A. T.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur C. S.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venkatarama Ayyar, Mr. K. R.
Venkataramayya Nayudu, Rao Sahib Badeti.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamnidar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Administration of Justice

Alleged decline in the number of civil suits and appeals.

* 1076 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there has been a large decline in the number of civil suits and appeals instituted this year;

(*b*) whether the Government have made any inquiry regarding the causes for this decline; and

(*c*) whether they have considered the question of lowering the court-fee to afford relief to litigants at a time of economic depression like the present?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) Does not arise.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know whether the Government do not get half yearly or quarterly reports? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No, Sir."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Will the hon. Member call for the information? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" If my hon. Friend is very particular, I shall have the information collected. I hope he will realize the enormous difficulties in the collection of this information from the whole Presidency."

Prisons and Prisoners

Ragi diet for prisoners convicted of offences connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement in Malabar.

* 1077 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) with reference to the answer to question No. 958, whether the report has been received;

(*b*) whether the hon. Member would place a copy of the same on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(c) Rice diet was not originally recommended in the case of nine 'C' class prisoners convicted by the Joint Magistrate of Tellicherry, for offences connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement. Eight of them have since been placed on rice diet. One prisoner has himself chosen cumbu diet. The Government do not consider that any further action is called for in the matter.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know whether the number of prisoners convicted by the Tellicherry Joint Magistrate was only 9? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not know."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state what was the diet prescribed in the case of these 9 prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I do not know; but I believe that, in the absence of the rice diet, it must be what is known as mixed diet."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I ask why this diet was prescribed for these prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is not possible to answer that question now, as the Magistrate, who prescribed the diet, has gone on long leave."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Magistrate does not ascertain from the prisoners, at the time of the sentence, what diet they are accustomed to? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" That is what he ought to do."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Was it done in this particular case? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" It is not possible to ascertain that information now."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I ask whether Mrs. Prabhu was prescribed ragi diet? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" I believe not."

Classification of Messrs. Annapurniah and Armila Venkataratnam as C class prisoners.

* 1078 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mr. Annapurniah who has been sentenced to a term of 4½ years is in the C class ;

(b) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Armila Venkataratnam who belongs to Noguchi Lanka, East Godavari, who was fined Rs. 1,000 and the same was collected on the spot has been given C class ; and

(c) whether it is a fact that Subbama Garu who was given A class last year has been given C class this time and that she is an old lady of 70 years of age ?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have no information. A report has been called for.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I request whether the Government will be pleased, after receiving the report, to put these two men and the lady in A class as Mr. A. Venkataratnam was fined Rs. 1,000 and as that amount was paid immediately? Mr. Annapurniah is a gentleman of status; Subbamma Garu is an old lady of 70 years. Will all of them be placed in A class? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" That will depend upon the report of the District Magistrate."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to consider whether Subbamma Garu cannot be put in A class, as she was put in A class last year? Will the Government take the initiative in the matter and put her in A class? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I do not know whether she was put in A class last year. I have called for a report; as I have said, upon the receipt of the report, I shall go into the whole matter and do what I can."

Mr. Yakub Hasan :—" May I ask if there is not some sort of understanding that those, who are fined large sums of money, would be placed in A class? I find that a sum of about Rs. 97,000 was collected by way of fines. That means that these political prisoners have paid the large amount of the fines imposed upon them. Will not such persons be put in A class? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" As I have often said on the floor of this House, it will depend upon the standard of living of the particular prisoner. The very fact that the fine imposed upon a particular person has been paid does not necessarily show that he is accustomed to a high standard of living; because, sometimes persons other than the prisoners pay the fines on behalf of the prisoners."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know if the hon. Member is aware that Mr. Annapurniah was put in A class last year? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" If this Annapurniah is the same Annapurniah who was convicted for sedition, I think he was placed in what was then known as the special class; A and B classes were not then in existence."

22nd March 1932]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" As Mr. Annapurniah was put in special class last year, may I ask if he will be put now in A class ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—" That will depend upon the report of the District Magistrate."

Land Revenue Administration

Probationary Revenue Inspectors in the Andhra Province.

* 1079 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many probationary Revenue Inspectors there are in the Andhra Province;

(*b*) whether they are given any preference to ordinary clerks in appointments to Deputy Tahsildars' posts;

(*c*) whether the probation period of two years is counted as service in the upper grade or lower grade;

(*d*) whether seniority is given to them from the date of their entertainment or from the date of their confirmation; and

(*e*) whether the probation period also is not taken into consideration in fixing seniority?

A.—(*a*) The number of probationary Revenue Inspectors in the Telugu speaking districts including Bellary and Chittoor on 31st December 1931 was 16.

(*b*) No; appointments to Deputy Tahsildars' posts are governed by rule 4 (B) of the Madras Revenue Subordinate Service Rules which were published in Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette* on 10th December 1929.

(*c*) The post of probationary Revenue Inspector is a special one carrying a fixed pay. The period of probation is not counted as service either in the upper division or in the lower division.

(*d*) Probationary Revenue Inspectors will take rank in the upper division according to the date on which they are substantively appointed.

(*e*) No.

Local Self-Government

Impasse in the District Board, Chingleput.

* 1080 *Q.*—Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what action he proposes to take over the throwing out of the Budget of the Chingleput District Board;

(b) whether he has considered the question of finding a solution for this *impasse* by holding the elections of this board immediately; and

(c) whether the electoral rolls for this board are ready; if so, what the reason is for not pushing on the elections?

A.—(a) The District Board are being advised to reconsider their resolution and pass the Budget with such modifications as they think fit.

(b) The elections cannot be held immediately.

(c) The electoral rolls in all taluks of the district will probably be made final by the 15th of April.

The Inspector is consulting the Collector as to the earliest date possible for holding the elections.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" The term of the Council expires on the 31st March. May I know up to what length of time the Government propose to extend the term of the local boards and whether they propose to hand over the management to the Collector, or whether they propose to extend the term of the local boards? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" It is under consideration to extend the term of the District Board up to 30th June 1932 except in case the Collector reports that elections may be held earlier."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know the reasons why the District Board refused to pass the budget? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" There are factions in the Board and they could not agree with regard to the budget? "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask what the Government propose to do in case the Board refuses to pass the budget? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" We have asked the District Board to reconsider and pass the budget. The Government will consider what steps will be taken if the Board does not pass the budget."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state roughly when the elections will be held?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Possibly before the 10th June in the Chingleput district."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" What does the hon. Minister mean by factions? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Differences among the parties."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the Government propose to hand over the administration of these local boards to the Collectors, supposing elections are not held before June? "

22nd March 1932]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"If the Government extend the period of the local boards, it is only after ascertaining from the Collectors that elections could not be held earlier. There is no idea of handing over the administration to the Collectors except for election of the president. I do not think Collectors can take charge of the administration for a long time."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I enquire whether it is not a fact that the electoral rolls for all the taluks—except one—are ready now, and whether the elections could not be held because the electoral roll of one taluk is not ready?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"The electoral rolls of all the taluks are ready now. But they will be made final by 15th of April; after that, arrangements will have to be made for the holding of the elections. The Collector has been asked to state whether the elections can be completed before the 10th June."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"I was told that the electoral rolls for one taluk are not ready."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I believe they are all ready now."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"May I know whether the presidents of local boards are to hold office even during the time of the elections?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Yes, Sir."

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—"Will the electoral rolls of the district boards be published?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"When they are ready, they will be published."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I enquire whether it is not necessary or advisable that the district board presidents should cease to be such at the time of the elections?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"I do not think so."

Medical Administration

Qualifications of the Resident Medical Officer, School of Indian Medicine, Madras.

*1081 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the age of Murugesa Mudaliyar, the Chief Lecturer in Siddha Medicine in the School of Indian Medicine and Resident Physician in the hospital attached to it, is;

(*b*) what he was in Government service before he became a lecturer and what the duration of his service there was and what pension he receives for the same;

(*c*) what his present pay as Chief Lecturer is;

(*d*) what his qualifications are for being a lecturer;

(*e*) what his qualifications are for being a Resident Physician;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that there are qualified lecturers who are made *his assistants; if so, what their names, qualifications* and pay are; and

(*g*) whether the rules regarding retirement do not apply to service in the School of Indian Medicine; if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) Sixty.

(*b*) He served as a clerk, accountant, etc., in the Indian Ordnance Department for a period of 17 years, and retired on an invalid pension of Rs. 12 per mensem in the year 1911.

(c) Rupees 200 per mensem (minus 10 per cent cut).

(*d*) He was trained in Siddha-Ayurvedic system, almost from his youth, under his uncle who was a Siddha-Ayurvedic physician and also under a yogi for a period of about ten years; he was also chief physician at the Sri Murugan Siddha Dispensary, Choolai, since 1911 and served as a lecturer in the Free School of Indian Medicine, opened in 1922.

(*e*) No special qualifications have been prescribed for doing the duties of Resident Physician. Any one of the lecturers in Indian Medicine may be appointed to serve as Resident Physician.

(*f*) It is not a fact that he has qualified *lecturers* as his assistants. The names, qualifications and pay of the assistant lecturers and part-time demonstrator working in the Siddha section are given below:—

Name and designation.	Qualification.	Pay.
		RS.
M.R.Ry. K. Kasinathan Avargal, First Assistant Lecturer.	L.I.M. (Siddha)	75 per mensem.
M.R.Ry. C. Dorairajan Avargal, Second Assistant Lecturer.	Do.	65 ,,
M.R.Ry. C. S. Uttamarayan Avargal, demonstrator.	Do.	50 ,,

(*g*) Rules regarding retirement are applicable to service in the Indian Medical School. But the services of M.R.Ry. C. S. Murugesa Mudaliyar Avargal are retained on a temporary basis as no candidate possessing the prescribed qualification (viz., the Diploma of High Proficiency Test in Indian Medicine granted by the Government Board of Examiners in Indian Medicine) is available for appointment as Lecturer in Siddha.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know whether this venerable old gentleman, who retired 21 years ago, is still fit for active service?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"He is quite fit to do the work he is entrusted with."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that this gentleman is responsible, as Resident Medical Officer, for the preparation of the Ayurvedic and Unani medicines and, if so, what his qualifications are for doing this duty? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I have no information."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" Will the hon. Minister call for the information? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I shall send a copy of the question and get the information."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I enquire whether in other departments of the school there are people who are more aged than this gentleman and whether they are not retained because of their ability and experience? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar :—" May I ask whether the Government are aware that Mr. Murugesa Mudaliyar was having extensive practice before he was appointed to this post, that he is a thoroughly qualified person, and that they cannot find a proper substitute if this gentleman is sent away? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" Mr. Murugesa Mudaliyar is retained, because we cannot find people who can take his place."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" How long has he been Resident Medical Officer? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" Notice, Sir."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I ask whether any change will be made in view of the events that happened in that school? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" No circumstances requiring any change has happened there."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" With reference to answer (*f*), will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether it is not a fact that the assistant lecturers were all trained by Mr. Murugesa Mudaliyar and that they qualified themselves under his training? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" Yes, Sir."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt :—" May I know whether any attempts were made to get another gentleman to fill in his place, and if so, what attempts were made ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" When the appointment was first made, applications were invited. Whether any attempts were made subsequently, I cannot say now."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I enquire whether there is any fixed time for which he is appointed as Resident Medical Officer? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—" I must ask for notice of the question."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ADJOURNMENT MOTION *RE* THE ALLEGED COMPULSION AND USE OF FORCE BY THE POLICE OF RAJAHMUNDRY ON CERTAIN PERSONS WEARING KHADDAR.

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the business of the House do stand adjourned to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz., the recent disclosures in Dr. Subrahmanyam's case that certain persons were compelled by the use of force by the Police of Rajahmundry to remove the khaddar clothes that they were wearing and burn them and to buy and wear foreign mull cloth."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member will briefly tell me how the matter is urgent and how it is a matter of recent occurrence."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" This is a matter of recent occurrence in this sense. The fact that the khaddar clothes worn by some persons were burnt with kerosene oil brought by a Policeman, came to the knowledge of the public only in the course of the proceedings of Dr. Subrahmanyam's case of which we find reports in the 'Hindu' and other papers of the 18th instant. The Police Sub-Inspector was examined as a prosecution witness in that case. While this matter was, by no means, a necessary part of the material which the prosecution had to put in in the case for the purpose of enabling the Court to hold the accused guilty or innocent, still in the course of the cross-examination of the Police Sub-Inspector, the happenings were brought out and it is definitely admitted by the Sub-Inspector in cross-examination that there was this incident, that certain persons who were wearing khaddar clothes were compelled to be stripped of them, that a Police constable brought kerosene oil, that kerosene oil was poured on these clothes, there was a bonfire, in the public streets of Rajahmundry, of these khaddar clothes and that foreign mull was compelled to be purchased and worn by them. These facts came to the knowledge of the public only through the disclosures in this case. I say, therefore, that the occurrence is recent. In judging whether the occurrence is recent or not, you have to get behind to the reasons of the rule which confines motions of this kind to urgent matters of recent occurrence."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" You need not discuss it."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" I have explained now how it is recent. So far as the urgency is concerned, this is certainly a matter of urgent importance as, if we do not now discuss this matter—specially in view of the fact that the session of the Council is coming to an end in a couple of days—there will be no chance of the attention of the Government being drawn to the extent of public feeling this incident has aroused on an extensive scale all over the Presidency. And if we do not, while yet we are sitting, make ourselves and the feelings of the public understood by the Government, if we do not enable the Government to take those urgent and necessary measures in the absence of

which it cannot be expected that district officials will avoid a recurrence of such incidents, there might be a recurrence of such incidents. In that sense, Sir, I say it is urgent also."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"As the hon. Member has himself pointed out that the occurrence has not been recent and disclosure alone has been recent, I find that it is not a matter of recent occurrence and so it does not come under the Rule or the Standing Order that enables any hon. Member to move such a motion. Secondly, any subject matter of a disclosure made in the course of an enquiry in a certain case, should not be made the subject-matter for an adjournment motion. As regards the urgency, I am not very much convinced about the argument of the hon. Member, especially because there have been no reports of such occurrences of the burning of khaddar cloths, etc., and if there have been some such occurrences after the last one which has been disclosed through the evidence in that particular case, then perhaps the hon. Member would have been in order, to move for the adjournment of the House, so as to draw the attention of the Government to put a stop to such occurrences. I therefore hold that it is not in order."

III.—EARLY RISING OF THE HOUSE ON ACCOUNT OF LUNAR ECLIPSE.

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"Sir, to-day being a Lunar Eclipse day, I think the Members of this House, especially the Hindu Members, would like to avail themselves of a holiday this afternoon. I therefore request that you will be kind enough to adjourn the House at 1-30 p.m. to-day."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, I consulted my friends on this side of the House and I must say that we are not at all anxious that the business of the House should be adjourned. The whole thing has apparently been settled by consultation between the Leaders of Parties, and in fact I don't think any of us here knew it beforehand. None of us here on this side wish the House to be adjourned, in view of the fact that we have no time even to get through the remaining Demands within the time allotted; and I do not see how we can get them through without your bringing the guillotine on, thereby stopping all discussion, unless the Government are prepared to allot an extra day for the purpose."

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, this morning it was represented to me by some Members of the Opposition that we should rise at one o'clock. I informed the President at once. It is left to the hon. Members of the House to do as they like, Sir."

Mr. M. A. MUTHIAH CHETTIYAR:—"I do not press this motion, Sir. I thought that the Hindu Members would be anxious to adjourn in the afternoon. I am very glad, Sir, that the Opposition is willing to co-operate in this matter. I am glad at least on this occasion the Opposition has come out boldly and said that they want to co-operate with us in seeing the Demands through. In response to the wish of the Opposition, I withdraw my motion."

IV.—*THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.*

DEMAND XXII—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES—TRANSFERRED—*cont.*

* *The hon. the* PRESIDENT:—" *The debate on Mr. Shetty's cut motion, under Demand XXII will be resumed.*"

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. President, Sir, this department is supposed to exist on the understanding that it is useful to the villagers. Sir, it is well-known that the only capital of the majority of the villagers is the cattle. You know, Sir, that the main industry of this country is agriculture, and agriculture cannot go on unless we have the help of the cattle both for the purpose of manuring and for the purpose of ploughing, for drawing water and for other purposes. When we look at the steps the Government have taken to improve the quality of the cattle and to prevent the enormous number of deaths due to contagious and other diseases, we find that the Government have not done even their barest duty. Sir, there is one remark which the hon. Minister made yesterday in a light-hearted manner—which is characteristic of him—but I believe, Sir, if he gives his serious thought to the matter—particularly because he is a big landlord and claims to represent the majority of the agriculturists in this Presidency—I am certain he will realize he should not have made such a remark in such a light-hearted manner. When referring to the necessity for the supply of serum to the cultivator free, the hon. Minister said that the ryot cannot expect to get this free service, in these times of financial depression which we are suffering from. May I ask him, Sir, who is it that is paying him here, who is it that contributes the amount, we are spending as salaries of officers and others, who is it that contributes to the comforts of many high-placed people? Is it not the cultivator? Is it not a fact, Sir, that most of the income that we derive as provincial revenue apart from his contribution to central revenue is coming from the cultivator? It is no exaggeration to say that nearly 90 per cent of the total provincial revenue comes from the cultivator; and so, is it too much to ask the hon. Minister to do all he can for the purpose of helping the cultivator in his industry, viz., agriculture? When lakhs and lakhs are being spent for water-supply in towns, very few lakhs are spent for supplying water to the villagers. We have been complaining, Sir,—and I am one of those who are never tired of complaining—to the Government that they are not doing all that they can for helping the villager. When the department through the villagers' calendar supplied by the Principal of Agriculture College says that the only capital of the villager is his cattle and that the large number of deaths among the cattle can be prevented, is it fair that the hon. Minister should say that we cannot, under present conditions, supply serum free to the villagers? I do not know, Sir, whether my Friend, the hon. the Minister has not read the report of the Royal Agricultural Commission. And what is the recommendation that the Agricultural Commission has made, Sir? They have definitely stated that under the conditions that now prevail in India, it is absolutely impossible to expect the villagers to pay for this serum that they have to use for preventing the present enormous death rate

22nd March 1932] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

among cattle. That is the recommendation. Royal Commission reports are thrown against us whenever it suits the Government to do so; but when it does not suit them, they simply do not care to go through them. Let us see, Sir, whether this Government are giving any adequate relief to the ryots in this respect. My Friend, the Second Minister seems to believe that the villagers could not be helped in this respect. No doubt, some attempts are made now and then and some help is given, but it is absolutely inadequate. If we take into account the number of deaths from contagious diseases alone, the report for the year 1930-31 mentions that there have been nearly a lakh of deaths from contagious diseases; while during the previous year 1929-30, the number of deaths came to about a lakh and a half. When we remember that these statistics are prepared out of reports supplied by the village magistrates who do not very often report the number of deaths except at a very late stage of the disease, we can safely put the number of deaths at about 2 lakhs. If, on an average, you take Rs. 100 as the price of a head of cattle, the amount of loss to the villagers will come to about 2 crores. Is it not the duty of this Government which gets its revenue from the poor ryots, to see that such disease among cattle is prevented? It is not always that loss is incurred by the villagers by the deaths of cattle alone; in some cases, though the disease does not kill tbe cattle, it leaves them incapacitated for 15 days, a month and even more. That is a loss, Sir, which the villager has to suffer. Besides, we must also take into account the insufficient milk given by milch cattle when affected by the disease. I am sure if we take into account all these things, the loss will be enormous. I know, Sir, with what anxiety the ryot looks on when his cattle are visited by contagious diseases. So recently as two or three months ago, in my own village when there was the 'Galikuntlu' disease—I do not know the English name—I believe it is foot and mouth disease—a number of ryots who wanted to buy some cattle—and among them I was myself one—for harvesting their crops, they did not want to do so because they could not risk buying cattle when the disease was prevalent. Such is the anxiety, Sir, that the villagers exhibit when the cattle are affected by disease. If the Government want to help the ryots, they must give up their present notions. They cannot say that because there is financial stringency, the ryots must suffer. I ask, Sir, is it not the duty of the Government to help them? After all, what is the money they are going to spend for this purpose? Is it not the money that they are now getting from the ryots themselves? I am sure if they spend it now, they can get it back doubly afterwards. If the hon. the Finance Member thinks that the money spent will be a loss, then my Friend, the hon. Minister, must tell the Finance Member that after all it is not a loss to the Government. He should say: 'Give me the money and I shall show you a new source of income by helping the ryot to improve his industry, which would mean prosperity and ability to pay more taxes.' That is what the Minister should do, Sir; instead of saying that on account of economic depression the Government say they cannot spend money for this purpose. That is one aspect of it. As a matter of fact, attempts made in western countries have shown that by means 11
of organization, and by spending a sufficient amount of money, it is a.

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [22nd March 1932

possible to stamp out most of the contagious diseases prevalent among cattle in this country. If you now come to consider to what extent Government is giving relief for the purpose of treating animals suffering from other diseases and accidents, there again, it is not sufficient. If in every taluk there are two or three dispensaries each serving about 30 or 40 villages staffed by efficient surgeons, besides one or two touring officers for each circle, I do not think even this would be considered more than adequate for the needs of the country. If the Government could not spare all the money necessary for this purpose, at least they ought not to have cut down the provision that is made for increasing the number of veterinary surgeons and for increasing the number of dispensaries. I am grieved to see that the provision made for the current year has been cut down, considering the fact that much of the income of the Government is derived mainly from the ryots. I think I have already raised the point in the last year or the year before last that Government should make an attempt to see how far the idigenous system of treating cattle diseases should be utilized by the Government. I believe no attempt has yet been made by the Government in that direction and generally whenever any suggestion is thrown out by hon. Members of this House, it is done with a desire to see that Government would take up the question and work it out and find out whether it is feasible or not. It is well-known that the cost of giving medical relief by indigenous system of medicine is very much less than English systems of medicine. I believe there are many drugs in the indigenous system by means of which diseases of cattle can be cured at a less cost than by more costly western systems. I know of a man in a village near Puttur in the Chittoor district, whose services were used to be requisitioned not only from the surrounding villages but also from the surrounding districts as he had knowledge of an effective drug used in treating broken parts of cattle, but unfortunately that man died and I do not know whether the knowledge of the drug that he was administering was given to any one of his descendants. Probably not, as there is a notion in this country that the efficacy of the remedy will be lost if before his time it is given out to others. What I want the hon. Minister is to see whether attempts could not be made by Government to collect information relating to the indigenous systems of medicine that are now practised and whether Government could not make use of them, and this can be done by spending a small amount of money. You know, Sir, that in Kistna a gentleman by name Yejella Sriramulu Chowdari published a book recently on indigenous systems of medicine for the treatment of cattle diseases and if only encouragement is given, I am pretty sure, a number of similar books will be published and there will also be a number of men forthcoming for giving their knowledge and experience for the benefit of the country. I therefore hope that an attempt will be made by Government in this direction at least in the future.

"There is another direction in which I would like the hon. Minister to bestow some attention. I understand there is a desire and a very commendable one too, to entrust the system of giving relief to cattle to local bodies. At any rate in this Presidency the Government, in spite of the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Agriculture, has not

22nd March 1932] [Mr. K. Koti Reddi]

proceeded to entrust this business solely to local bodies to the extent which it wanted it to be done. I for one would not complain against this action of the Government. Knowing as I do the interest the local bodies are taking in some of the duties entrusted to them by the Government, unless my hon. Friend the Chief Minister takes pains to see that the local bodies are so reformed as to attract persons who take a genuine interest, in rendering public service and not those who take up the work merely for the prestige and power or for selfish advantage in the shape of contracts, etc., it is not desirable to entrust any more work to the local bodies. I am saying this seriously, although I must admit there are a pretty number of men who I know do take a genuine interest in these things, but they are exceptions. Till steps are taken to reform these local bodies whose members take a more and more genuine interest in contributing their free and honorary service to help the country, till such time arrives—I hope it will arrive soon—it may not be desirable to entrust the local bodies with more and more of the duties which the Provincial Government would have to do. I am not therefore sorry if the hon. Minister has not transferred these duties to the local boards at present. I had to refer to this because the Royal Commission on Agriculture has made a distinction between the relief that the Provincial Government ought to give and the relief that the local bodies ought to give. They say that with regard to the relief that has to be given in regard to contagious diseases among cattle, it ought to be in the hands of the Provincial Government and in the matter of treating ordinary diseases and conducting surgical operations, it is necessary and desirable that they should be transferred to the local bodies. One result of this would be that the local bodies would not have enough money to finance the scheme and if the Government are approached by them for more funds, I do not believe the Government would be so interested to give the local bodies as much money as is required for the purpose. So, if the Government has the entire scheme in its own hands there is the greater probability of the Government devoting more attention to this kind of relief. Now that the Government has taken a very desirable step of preparing serum that is necessary for inoculating cattle against rinderpest, I hope serious attempts will be made, apart from financial considerations, to see that this disease is stamped out of the Presidency. In my own village sometime ago, this rinderpest affected cattle to an extent of 70, each costing from Rs. 150 to Rs. 300 and by the time I reported the matter to the officials and got their help, many cattle died and further there was not the necessary serum to inoculate all the cattle with. No doubt Government supply these officers with some quantity but not the amount that is necessary. Besides, the necessary staff to cope with the work is not available. I therefore wish to say that Government should not look upon this from a purely financial point of view, but from the point of view of the ryot. I need not repeat the immediate necessity for taking measures to prevent this disease altogether among the cattle.

"There is also another suggestion which I want to make in this connexion and that is whether economy in the expenditure on the three different colleges, viz., the Agricultural College, the Forest College and

the Veterinary College, cannot be effected by amalgamating all these colleges into one. This is my suggestion and I have not worked it out, but I think it is for the Government to take it up and investigate. I think there is a possibility of amalgamating these colleges into one, for a number of subjects taught in them are common. In the matter of direction, in the matter of accommodation and in common laboratories and in a number of other things, it will be possible to save a lot of money if the three colleges are amalgamated, or at any rate brought under one head and concentrated in the same place, without any loss of efficiency. I hope Government will consider the suggestion and thus effect a saving, especially now when every hon. Member on the Treasury Bench is complaining of want of funds for doing this or that.

"If there is one thing in which Government ought not to be stingy, it is research. I find even such a branch as research is being affected by retrenchment proposals and I do not know what steps are taken to see that research in veterinary science at least is not affected. Probably my hon. Friend, the hon. Minister, is waiting to say that research is being done in Muktesar and that is enough for our purposes; but I believe it is not enough. Every province, I think, ought to take up the question of research and devote as much attention, energy and finance as possible.

"As was pointed out by the Royal Commission on Agriculture during the last decade or two, research in veterinary science had already done much for the benefit of the country and therefore it ought not to be discontinued on account of financial considerations.

5 "Once again, finally, I advert to the question of free inoculation. The hon. Minister no doubt says that the question of free inoculation has not yet been decided; but he had also given out that in these days of depression, we should not expect free service—I think he has already made up his mind. I believe it will be a wrong step to take because the experience of Mysore and that of other provinces has shown that in spite of the good effects of inoculation, once Government imposes a charge for it, many people will not take advantage of it. Hence I request that the hon. Minister will see the need of giving free service in a matter which so vitally affects the ryots. I hope he will take immediate and adequate steps to see that there is sufficient supply of serum given to the department and that inoculation may be done free."

* Diwan Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not propose to critisize the usefulness of the working of any department. Every department we know—the Agricultural department, the Veterinary department, the Co-operative department or the Industries department—every one of the Development departments is doing very good and useful work each in its own way. But my complaint just like that of other hon. Members is that the usefulness and the good works done by these departments suffer for lack of co-ordination. My hon. Friend, Rao Bahadur Ramalingam Chettiyar, suggested the appointment of a Development Commissioner for purposes of co-ordinating the activities of these departments. Highly paid officers we

22nd March 1932] [Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar]

have in abundance; we have too many of them. So long as we have got the Development Minister and he has a Secretary attached to the department, it must be the duty of the Minister assisted by the Secretary to *co-ordinate* the activities of the departments. If that is done, I think more useful and more efficient work can be turned out. That there is lack of co-ordination between the departments I have named will be evident by the speeches that have been delivered on the floor of this House. Talking on Agriculture, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar spoke about bore-wells in the district of Bellary. Well-boring proper is the duty of the Industries department. The hon. Member said speaking on Agriculture that the bore-wells made in the Bellary district have not been utilized to the advantage of the agriculturists. That only goes to show that there ought to be co-ordination between the two departments. My hon. Friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, reminds me that we are speaking about the Veterinary department. It is true that we are discussing about this department; but, Sir, in the discussion yesterday on Agriculture several hon. Members had to refer to rinderpest though this actually comes under the Veterinary department. My point once again is that, even here, there is lack of co-ordination and all these Development departments suffer on account of this serious defect.

" Sir, live-stock now forms a branch of the Agricultural department. I would request the hon. Minister for Public Works to see that it is made one of the main branches of the Veterinary department, and not to allow it to continue as a subordinate branch of the Agricultural department. This is the case in the Punjab, Bihar and Orissa and I hope he will do the same in this province also.

" Just the other branches of the administration, the Retrenchment Committee have come in here also for a lot of criticism. The Retrenchment Committee were fully convinced of the efficacy of the serum inoculations. They have devoted a separate paragraph for this subject. This is what they say:

'The Committee consider that by far the most important field for economy in the Veterinary department is to be found in the local manufacture of anti-rinderpest serum. The present bill for serum purchases from Muktesar is between Rs. 4 and Rs. 5 lakhs a year and they understand that the Director is confident as a result of experiment that equally good serum can be manufactured in Madras at about half that cost. They further understand that a building is available in Madras in which manufacture could be started at a small initial capital cost within few weeks of the schemes being sanctioned, and that if orders were issued without delay a saving of about half a lakh of rupees might be secured even during the current year. The Committee strongly recommend that Government should reconsider this possibility as *an urgent measure of economy.*'

" They have emphasized the importance of the local manufacture of serum. Again with regard to the levy of fees, it was suggested by hon. Members that it was the Retrenchment Committee that proposed the levy of fees. I may say for the information of the House that the question of the levy of fees was considered by the Retrenchment Committee at the instance of the Director of Veterinary Services and I will read their recommendation. This is what they said:

'The present cost to Government is about Rs. 3 for each inoculation, and while there is keen competition for serum in some areas, in others there is

[Mr. C. S. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar] [22nd March 1932

still great reluctance to produce animals for inoculation. The Committee consider that a small fee—any, even 4 annas—should be levied wherever possible, and recommend that Government should examine the question in consultation with the Director as to where and how the system should be applied.'

(*Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: 'Very cautious recommendations.'*)

"I do not think that the Government have examined the question of levy of fees in the spirit in which it was recommended and I request the hon. Minister to take up this question seriously and not to levy this fee at all, because the levy of fees at four annas may not amount too much. The saving that would be effected by the Government in the manufacture of serum locally will he considerable. This may be set off against the loss, if any, due to the free inoculation of cattle. The Government will be more than compensated for the free supply of serum.

"My hon. Friend, Mr. Koti Reddi, very strongly pleaded that the maintenance of the veterinary dispensaries should be left to the local boards and only the question of rinderpest, inoculation, etc., should be in the hands of the Government. Sir, prior to 1921, veterinary hospitals and dispensaries were being maintained by the local boards. As a result of the recommendations of the Financial Relations Committee—Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar was a member of that committee—it was decided that they should no longer be under the local boards but that their maintenance should be a proper charge on the finances of the Government. It was then when the Local Boards Bill, 1920, was passed the local boards were relieved of the maintenance of Veterinary dispensaries. With regard to this, Sir, the Retrenchment Committee have recommended by a majority that the maintenance of these dispensaries should be again taken by the local boards. Myself and another Member have submitted a minute of dissent. I request, Sir, that the hon. Minister would not accept this recommendation especially in these days when the finances of the local bodies are inelastic and when they have many undertakings and a great number of services to maintain and look after.

"Sir, regarding the supply of medicines to these hospitals and dispensaries, I may say that in many institutions the stock of medicine runs short even before seven or eight months. Therefore, I request, Sir, that the stock of medicines may be such that the same may last for the full year. When I am speaking about the hospital equipment, I am reminded about the old and primitive methods of castration that still obtains in some of the hospitals and dispensaries. I understand that in other countries they have improved methods of castration and I request that the Government should introduce the improved system."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to speak on this motion with a view to express the view point of the cultivators that any the least retrenchment in the department is detrimental to their interests. It is undesirable and also wrong that there should have been any retrenchment in the Veterinary services. However cautious the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee have been, still they

must be held to have been unnecessary and inexpedient. Sir, we have always been urging that the activities of the department should be extended. As it is, there are only 280 assistants for about 52,000 villages. We can see how inadequate the number of assistants is for the very large number of villages that has to be served. Instead of increasing the number of assistants I understand as a result of the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee accepted by the Government, a number of men who have come out and are yet to come out—there are about 25 or 30 under the latter category—will not be entertained. I submit, Sir, it is a very serious problem that people who have been three or four years under training in college should have to go without employment. The labour and the effort involved in their training, not to speak of the stipends paid to them, will be a loss to the State. It is rather inadvisable that there should be retrenchment in men whereas we are thinking of having more and more men. I understand that already some men have been sent out. The Government should consider the re-entertainment of those people whom they have asked to go on account of retrenchment.

" Sir, about touring billets there are one hundred and odd men who form the staff. If you consider the number of villages in this vast Presidency and the number of cattle, it will be seen that the number is hardly adequate. The result is that they are not able to serve each and every village much less an adequate proportion of the cattle in the villages. I consider that the hundred and odd officers should at least be made two hundred. Now that in the course of the next year we are having local production of serum, it is all the more necessary that we should increase the number of touring billets because it is the touring officers that go about from village to village and study the spread and prevalence of infectious diseases. That kind of useful staff should on no account be reduced.

" I understand that there was a scheme or an idea that more men should be trained for a shorter period—say for six months or three months—so that inoculation on a larger scale could be performed within a shorter space of time. If only such a scheme is tried, I think, cattle mortality would be checked to a very large extent. I would ask the hon. Minister as to whether he has asked the Director of Veterinary Services if such a scheme is feasible. That will, I think, save the cattle from being swept away by the disease. Sir, we see men after a training for three or four years performing injections, intra-muscular injections and so forth after so short a training. When that being the case I don't think why inoculation should not be taught to these medical pupils within a period of five or six months. After all it will not cost the Veterinary College anything to train these men. I am sure the hon. Minister will work out this scheme so that when the emergency arises we may have the services of a larger number of veterinary medical staff instead of what we are having now, an assistant for a taluk, or two or more taluks as it sometimes happens. The ideal system is that where we have an assistant surgeon in the Veterinary Service

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [22nd March 1932

for each taluk. Now that is not the system; we have only one such surgeon for a number of taluks put together.

"Besides, Sir, the assistant surgeons who are trained in the veterinary course seem to confine themselves to their dispensaries only. That should not be the case. That is rather wasting their training, their capacity and public funds. They must be officers who go about the villages, the taluks and the districts, finding out where contagious diseases prevail, how best to stop their spread and how best to eradicate them.

"Now with regard to the recruitment of men to this service I would urge the Minister to see that a greater proportion of these people are recruited from the villages. In fact I find most of the veterinary pupils coming only from urban areas. That being the case these students after their period of training will naturally be averse to go to villages. And not only that they will have very little knowledge of the livestock of the agriculturists. So the hon. Minister should make it a point to see that pupils coming from villages, from rural areas and particularly the sons of villagers, ryots and cultivators who maintain livestock are recruited to the Veterinary College. As I said, the pupils coming from urban areas will be loath to go to the villages, and so as a principle, preference should be given to those coming from rural areas.

"One more point I wish to make and that is with regard to the course of training imparted to the students in the Veterinary College. The course of training seems to be almost efficient and sufficient, as it ought to be; but what is happening is this. Under the present rules a student who has put in S.S.L.C. course, a student who has completed the S.S.L.C. course and a student who has passed the S.S.L.C examination all are admitted into the college, and the course prescribed extends to just three years. I feel in the case of a S.S.L.C. candidate the period is not sufficient to enable him to thoroughly grasp the teaching in science. So I think the course should be made four years for all under-graduates. In the case of the graduates who have taken science for their degree, because they have already gained an elementary knowledge of science in their college classes they may be able to better appreciate the technical knowledge imparted in the Veterinary College, better than those S.S.L.C. students who have no such grounding in science. Hence I suggest for these people a course of four years.

"Now, Sir, particularly when serum is going to be manufactured locally it is all the more necessary why we should have an increased number of veterinary officers for inoculation purpose. I would enter at this stage my strong protest against the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee that there should be a fee levied for inoculation. The proposal of the Retrenchment Committee is very cautiously worded by so many provisions and provisos. All the same Government would only clutch at the proposal and try to make as much money as they can in these hard times. I would urge on the Minister to veto that recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee when the proposal comes before the Cabinet. Perhaps they may be levying only a fee of 4 annas

22nd March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

now but gradually they will increase it to Rs. 2. So on principle I oppose the levy of inoculation fees."

Mr. T. Narasa Reddi:—" Mr. President, Sir, there is not one in this House who does not realize that next to land, cattle forms the mainstay of the people. My complaint against this department is that the department has not made itself useful to the ryot. (Hear, hear.) Every one of us knows that we are all living in villages, and so every villager ought to be made aware of the existence of this department. But what do we see practically? We see a number of villagers are not aware of the existence of such a department as this. So what I suggest to Government is that a scheme should be suggested whereby this department should be made popular whereby the importance and the utility of this branch of the administration may be easily accessible to the teeming millions in the villages. It is only then that we can be said to be doing good to the ryot. Unless we do this it is impossible for any Government to establish veterinary dispensaries usefully, as we have established other dispensaries.

" Sir, every villager is to a little extent a doctor to his cattle. So it is very easy to educate him in this direction and carry out the result of his education in his everyday life. What I would therefore suggest is that a short course in veterinary science should be given to every ryot free of cost, say, in the headquarters of every district and in the capital of the Presidency. If this is done, we will be seeing in the course of a few years every ryot treating his own cattle, and preventing the huge cattle mortality which we are now witnessing. This is one method I suggest to Government to adopt and unless this is done no Government worth its name can justify its existence. Now the question of finance is threatening every one of us in the face both of the Government and of the people and so the best thing for the Government to do is to educate the ryot in veterinary science as it is not costly.

" Then, Sir, the existence of the department is not now felt, for the department is in its infancy. As yet we have not been informed of any specific for any of these epidemic diseases among the cattle. The only treatment available is the serum alone treatment or the serum simultaneous treatment. And even this, Government have not been able to make it available to the ryot. When the ryot goes in search of the doctor to the veterinary dispensary, he is not able to find the doctor there. For the doctor has to be touring often. He will have to go from village to village, from one taluk to another, and at last when the ryot meets the doctor he is faced with the reply that the doctor does not possess the requisite medicine. I shall refer to the inadequate supply of medicine later on. The two epidemic diseases which we commonly meet with are the rinderpest and the foot and mouth disease. Now in every village the village munsif is expected to report the outbreak of this disease to the higher authorities. But as a rule the village munsif does not care or think it his duty to report it. Only when the disease has broken out on a large scale does he carry this information to the tahsildar. This takes about a week, and during this period the poor

[Mr. T. Narasa Reddi] [22nd March 1932

cattle have to suffer and die. Then from the tahsildar the matter goes up to the veterinary doctor in the headquarters; and this takes another week; and within these two weeks the whole cattle stock might die uncared for. Sir, this is the way of communicating the information to the proper authorities. And this method is nothing but absurd. Because, as I said, the whole village by that time is depleted of its cattle stock. The remedy I would suggest is this. Instead of the village munsif reporting, a small committee of ryots must be formed and they should instantaneously report the matter to the local board which is near to them and the local board must take pains to see that the matter is at once communicated to the veterinary doctor. Unless this course is adopted there is no use of the present intricate and dilatory method of the village munsif communicating the information to the revenue inspector, from there to the tahsildar, and from there to the doctor concerned. It is a hopeless affair. Even though some of the Members of this House may not like the local boards being saddled with any more additional duties, I would recommend this duty to them. I am strongly of opinion that the local boards should not shirk this work. Not only should they not avoid this duty it is their duty to see that this work is done efficiently; and not only that they, namely, the local boards or the members thereof, should be willing to do some honorary work. It is for this purpose I said that the local boards must be entrusted with this honorary work of the Veterinary department.

"There is another thing which I wish to express, and it is about the existence of the touring doctors. Sir, there are touring veterinary doctors, and they are very few in number and so they are not able to cope with the situation. Sir, the diseases of the cattle rage, as it were, when they break out, and when they break out they break out not only in one or two villages or taluks, but they break out simultaneously throughout the Presidency. At that time the existing staff is completely unable to cope with the situation. Now when they are not able to do so, the existence of such a staff is not worth having and all the money spent on the department is simply useless and a waste.

"Another handicap under which the veterinary staff suffer is that they have seldom sufficient stock of medicine with them. They have to be moving about from place to place, and the medicine they take with them is of small stock and there is no means of replenishing the stock, as the stock in the headquarters itself is very poor in quantity. If such a state of affairs is to continue how can you justify the existence of the department? So I suggest that sufficient supply of medicine should be given to the staff, so that the touring doctors may be kept active always.

-15 "I submit that these dispensaries are not adequate to meet the
n. needs of the people. Sir, in the whole district we have only one or two dispensaries and even in the case of those dispensaries the medicines supplied are inadequate and there are not proper surgical instruments for operations of boils and other diseases. So the little aid that this department can give is not at all felt by the ryot population on

22nd March 1932] [Mr. T. Narasa Reddi]

account of the paucity of funds, medicines and doctors. In Cuddapah we have only two dispensaries whose existence is not at all felt. For the proper and efficient working of these institutions there must be efficient control and supervision, whether by local bodies or other authorities. There is none to check the vagaries of the touring veterinary doctors and dispensaries. I beg the Minister to see that more dispensaries are opened in the Cuddapah district and better check ensured over the existing dispensaries and arrange for the adequate provision of medicines."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. President, I should not have intervened in this debate but for a reference which I heard from the hon. the Second Minister yesterday that there is a proposal for levying fees for serum inoculation. The position of the ryot has been graphically described by my hon. Friend Mr. Koti Reddi and the hon. Minister himself being an agriculturist could have realized their position very well. So, it is needless for me to impress upon him the various difficulties of the poor and oppressed ryot population, and argue with him to drop the proposal altogether. The ryots have not really understood the Veterinary department, and if fees are to be levied for these common inoculations they will not care to understand the value of this department and all the money spent over it will be a waste. From what my hon. Friend Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar has said if I understood him aright, even the retrenchment committee does not seem to be of the firm opinion that the charging of serum may be made necessarily. To avoid the difficulty and with one eye to see that each and every source is tapped irrespective of its merit they seem to have made the recommendation in a half-hearted way and the Minister has taken it in a very serious manner. As I heard from my Friend Mr. Mudaliyar it is left almost to the discretion of the Minister and the Government to do what they thought best in the matter. Even if the recommendations of the committee are strongly in favour of levying charge for serum inoculations and the Government insist on adopting it, I think I am perfectly pertinent if I say that it is the duty of the hon. Minister to make his whole influence felt in the matter and see that the serum is given free.

" Another point I like to mention is with regard to the touring veterinary officers. They are expected to be of great help to the ryots but practically their help is not felt by those who need it. As far as I know I come across these touring officers only at important festival centres and they seem to go there simply to take an account of the cattle that assemble there. As my friend from North Arcot puts it, it is a jolly trip no doubt. But this should not be the case. They should go to the interior of the villages with their medicine chest and all appliances and make their presence really useful to the dumb creatures and thus help the ryot population. Simply by their going and visiting the festival centres and taking an account is in no way helping the ryot. What we need is some actual and useful work. With regard to the dispensaries I would like to draw the attention of the hon. the Second Minister

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder] [22nd March 1932

that medical officers in charge of the dispensaries should not make it a point to remain in the headquaters itself but must allot one or two days in a week to go about the villages attending on cattle, and thus popularize their department. As it is I can assnre the hon. Minister that the majority of people in the rural parts do not know the existence of the department at all. That being the case they cannot make use of it to the necessary extent. The department is no doubt very useful, but what I insist is that its presence must be felt by the people who need it. So I would like the hon. Minister to see that the officers in charge of the dispensaries take real interest and go about in the rural parts to extend their help voluntarily to the ryot at his doors, at least until the latter wakes up. In this connexion I am reminded of an incident. When a report is sent to one veterinary surgeon about a disease of cattle and also about the inspection of a breeding bull he says who is to give my travelling allowance and whether the local board president who reported the matter is to pay the travelling allowance. The Minister must consider this state of affairs very carefully. The local boards have no allotment. The Government must make adequate provision for all these things and see that the veterinary department is really enjoyed by the agriculturists, and the expenditure made in this behalf is justified."

* Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"The well-being of about 90 per cent of the population of the country depends upon the proper and efficient working of this department. The chief wealth of a ryot consists of his lands and among the movables cattle takes the first place. Therefore it is necessary that the cattle are kept in a healthy and good condition. I have known personally cases in the villages where these epidemic diseases break out, the cattle die in large numbers and the ryots are in a helpless condition. The mass of the villagers do not know what to do. They do not even know that if they write to the Veterinary department they will get help. If somebody puts it into their heads they do write but the help does not come immediately. As a matter of fact it happens that after the epidemic has considerably subsided the officers come on the scene. No doubt the department is greatly handicapped on account of the insufficiency of the staff. A staff of 260 assistant surgeons and a a touring staff of 100 is not adequate for a big Province like ours. But there is no use in stressing that point because the Minister will say we are in financial difficulties. So I am not going to refer to it at all. What I urge is, even the existing departmental staff are not discharging their duties as efficiently as they ought to do. The public think that it is a sluggish department. It is not as efficient as the Police department, or the Revenue department or the Excise department. There is a wholesome fear in the minds of the subordinate officers of these departments that there would be immediate punishment if they do not do their work properly. But in this department there is no such impression and therefore, Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to infuse new vigour into this department and to hold the reins rather tight and see that all the subordinates do their work properly, briskly and efficiently.

22nd March 1932] [Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar]

"Then, Sir, hon. Members referred to the necessity of co-ordinating the different departments under the development head. No doubt it is necessary and I wish the Minister pays the attention needed to it.

"I have got one word to say about the manner in which the selection of candidates is made in the Veterinary College. Sir, last year a number of applicants applied for being admitted into the Veterinary College. It happened, Sir, that one member of my community also applied. He belongs to a very large land-owning class and a backward community. He had the minimum qualification, but yet he was not selected. The whole difficulty is on account of the unsatisfactory personnel of the Selection Board. No doubt there is a depressed class member on the Board, for instance Mr. Siva Raj. But, his attention is taken away by trying to get in as many depressed classes men as possible and he is quite right. It is his primary duty. Then there are members of the non-Brahman communities. My friend Mr. Siva Raj if he wants to have his depressed class members admitted he has to depend upon the other members. He has to depend upon them and they have to depend upon him. Therefore unfortunately my community goes without any representation. Therefore I would appeal that a member of my community is also put in all these committees. It may appear rather trivial that every class should be asking for representation. But I am asking on a certain definite principle, Sir. I am not asking for any particular community but I am asking for a particular division called the backward classes which consists of 90 communities. It is a recognized division also according to the Educational Rules. I wish that the hon. Minister puts in at least in future a member of the backward communities on these selection boards. I am not even anxious that a member should be there. I am only anxious that due attention should be given to the selection of candidates from the agricultural communities, by whatever means it could be achieved."

* S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, much has been said as regards the needs of the villagers, particularly, the ryots, and I do not think there is anything left for me except to endorse the views of my hon. Friends who have spoken before me. I want to submit a few words for the consideration of our popular and genial Minister for Public Works. I am sure, Sir, he is very earnest about achieving good results, and the few suggestions that I may make will help him considerably. As regards the veterinary doctors, it is unfortunate that the great scope for their work has not yet come to be realized by the ryots. I wish, Sir, that Government would come to the help of the ryots and that everything possible is done for their betterment. I would particularly point out one instance in my village where rinderpest has been in existence for the past one year, and I do not know whether the officers in charge have brought this to the notice of Second Minister. The Government should see that the veterinary officers do everything to help the poor 12 P

[S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur] [22nd March 1932

ryots. I do not want to criticize the work turned out by these poor veterinary doctors because they are very zealous in doing their work. But I want them to make their presence felt, because I know as a matter of fact that there are lots of villagers who do not know the existence of veterinary doctors at all. I would like to suggest that whenever they go out on tour, they should arrange for meetings of villagers and give them valuable suggestions in the matter of preservation of cattle and prevention of disease. In the end, I would request the Second Minister to see that representation of Mussalmans in the department is properly incerased."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Mr. President, at the outset I should like to point out that the people living in the various parts of the Presidency have not availed themselves of the benefits conferred by these departments. It is not so much due to want of co-ordination but due to want of adequate staff to spread the results of the experiments made in the laboratories of Coimbatore and in the Veterinary College, Madras. These departments suffer not only from shortage of staff but also shortage of funds placed at their disposal. If I have men and money I could easily make the working of the departments felt by every ryot in this Presidency. (Mr. Koti Reddi: 'Get it.') Where am I to get it from? After all, the Retrenchment Committee which consists of Members of this House have asked for large retrenchments in these departments. It is not possible in the circumstances to get as much money or even as many men as I should like. Only the other day I pointed out that in the case of inoculation for rinderpest, if protective measures are to be taken, it would take ten years to finish the inoculation and would cost us 10 to 12 times as much as we are spending now. This is what the Director of Veterinary Services told me. No doubt it is worth doing but unfortunately money is not available. The departments under my charge are efficient and well managed; the only drawback is that we have not enough men and money.

" As for the suggestion that there should be a better co-ordination between these departments, my attention was drawn to this by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, yesterday, and I told him that I would consider the matter and, if possible, see that all the departments are made to work together and increase the wealth and prosperity of the villagers. In this connexion I may say that the new Director of Agriculture has already started work in conjunction with the Director of Industries and in course of time he will also get the co-operation of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the Director of Veterinary Services. Even without any direction from the Government to this effect, I am sure the co-ordination urged by some of the hon. Members will take place.

" Then coming to inoculation, I said yesterday that the Retrenchment Committee recommended that a small fee should be charged for every inoculation. I believe no orders have been passed on the question.

22nd March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

I heard from various hon. Members that it would not be advisable to levy and fee and they have given reasons. When orders are passed I will bear in mind the remarks of the hon. Members and see whether I cannot meet their wishes. The idea was that a little fee should be charged from men who could afford it, so that that amount might be utilized for preparing more serum. It is not with a view to make any profit out of it. But in view of the feelings of the hon. Members of this House, I shall see whether it is not possible to get on as before without charging fees. (Hear, hear.) In this connexion, certain hon. Members said that the Royal Commission on Agriculture has said that no fees should be charged, and they made so much about the remark of the Royal Commission. A great deal also was made of one or two recommendations of that Commission. I may say that as far as I am concerned, I am not going to take their recommendations as final authority, especially when these recommendations are only recommendations and are not obligatory on the part of the Government to adopt them. These after all were recommendations made about three years ago; circumstances have changed since then and you cannot give effect to all of them. Not that I say that I am not going to consider them at all, but what I say is that I am not going to be bound by mere recommendations of any body of men, however eminent they may be. I shall certainly consider each thing on its merits and pass orders.

"Coming to livestock, a suggestion was made that this should be transferred to the Veterinary department. This question was discussed at length two or three years ago and it was felt that there was no necessity to transfer it from the Agricultural to the Civil Veterinary department. My friend Mr. Koti Reddi points out that circumstances have changed since then. In view of the remarks emanating from my hon. Friends Diwan Bahadur Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar and Mr. A. B. Shetty, I am prepared to reconsider the matter.

"Then, Sir, as for the Veterinary College, they said that the period should be extended from three to four years. Fortunately the Director of Veterinary Services is here and he has heard the remarks of the hon. Members and I am quite sure, if there is any necessity to change the course to four years, he will make the necessary proposals and Government will consider them.

"Then, Sir, I am rather surprised to hear from Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar that in many of the dispensaries, medicines run short within a period of six months or so. I would like him to bring to the notice of the Government instances of dispensaries which have not got sufficient stock (Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: 'And also medicine') and I will draw the attention of the Director of the Veterinary Services to it.

"With reference to the remarks of Diwan Bahadur C. S. Ratna- 12
sabhapati Mudaliyar on castration the old method which he described P

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [22nd March 1932

as barbarous has been given up. Nowadays the *Budrisso castrator* is being used largely and I am told that it is very popular with ryots. My friend Mr. Shetty wanted that not only dispensaries but also touring assistants should be supplied with this instrument. I believe this is supplied to all the dispensaries and touring assistants. If it is not so I will see that early steps are taken in that direction. My friend Mr. Manikkavelu Nayakar pointed out that this department is not discharging its duties properly. It is a very vague charge. He said that the influence of this department is not felt by the ryot like the Police or the Revenue Department. I do not wish to compare this department with any other department. If my friend gives me instances where the department is not doing its work properly I shall be glad to look into the matter. As regards the admission of students to the Veterinary College I believe there have been no complaints so far as I know. In this connexion my friend wanted that a representative of the backward classes should be nominated to the Selection Committee. As there are 100 or so backward communities I do not know whether nomination of a member of any particular community will satisfy the other communities. Anyhow I can say this much. I am prepared to convey the feelings of this House to the Selection Committee and ask them to give preference to the members of the backward communities, if suitable and qualified candidates are available. Coming to my friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed he said that some men had been sent out of the department. This is not peculiar to this department alone. Other departments also had to send men because of retrenchment. In the case of men who had been sent out, majority of them will be re-entertained when the Serum Institute starts working. It was asked whether men could not be given training for a period of six months so that they can do both inoculation and castration work without having to undergo a long course of three or four years in the college. I do not know whether this can be done. Anyhow I shall consult the Director of Veterinary Services and consider the possibility of giving effect to this sugestion. Another complaint is that assistant surgeons are not easily accessible to the people as they do not tour about in the districts. I am afraid it is not the case. It is the duty of the assistant surgeons to tour about but in the case of assistants who are in charge of the dispensaries if their work is not very heavy their tour is limited to smaller areas. One other proposition made by him was that preference should be given in the matter of recruitment to services to the villagers. I do not understand what is meant by that. Probably his idea is that officers should be selected from among the villagers. As my hon. Friend is aware that appointments to the services are regulated by the Statutory Rules, no other criterion can be applied. Coming to my friend Mr. Koti Reddi I am indeed thankful to him for having reminded me that I am a landowner myself and I am paid by the tax-payers. I will tell him that I am also a tax-payer as well as he is and I am fully aware of my responsibilities. I may assure him that I am not taking things in a light-hearted manner. I have already told the

22nd March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

House what the difficulties are which the departments under me are to contend with. These can be easily surmounted but he and others of his way of thinking would not agree to the ways I would suggest. Provincial Autonomy, wherein the management of Government will be entirely in the hands of Ministers, would solve these difficulties but they want something more than this. So long as the advent of Provincial Autonomy is delayed we will have to put up with various difficulties. Be that as it may. My friend referred to the indigenous treatment of cattle. I may say that instructions have been issued to the assistants of the department that as far as possible indigenous drugs should be recommended to the people. These officers are also supplied with a book "Gosamrakshanam" in vernacular so as to make the indigenous treatment of cattle available to the ryots. In this connexion I may say that this Government have forwarded to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research a scheme for the appointment of an officer to investigate the efficacy of the indigenous drugs. My friend Mr. Beyabani talked of insufficiency of Muslim representation in this and other departments. At present the policy of Government is to encourage the members of the Muslim, backward and the depressed classes communities as far as possible. Recently in pursuance of this, Government have raised the age-limit from 25 to 27 so as to enable members belonging to these communities to enter Government service. In course of time these communities will have their due representation in the services. Mr. Narasa Reddi has made a number of suggestions. I shall go into them very carefully. Before I sit down I wish to inform my friend Mr. Shetty that when the question of opening more dispensaries is taken up as soon as the finances of the provinces improve, Udipi will be given the first preference. This is the suggestion of the Director himself."

Mr. A. B. Shetty:—"Sir, the hon. the Minister is full of intentions. He disarms all opposition by the very sympathetic way in which he has dealt with the points raised by several Members of the House and by the different sections of the House. In view of the very, very satisfactory reply that he has given and also in view of the many assurances that he has given us, I do not wish to press the motion to a division."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXII—Civil Veterinary Services—Transferred, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,70,500 was put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XXIII—CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES—TRANSFERRED

* The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,71,800 under Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies—Transferred*'."

[22nd March 1932

.m. * Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Sir, I beg to move—

'*that the allotment of Rs.* 10,71,800 *for Co-operative Societies be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" Sir, in this connexion, I should like to raise four or five important issues connected with this department. The hon. Minister in the speech which he has just concluded has made us all a bit nervous by showing himself to be an independent person who has no particular regard for the views of other persons or bodies however august they may be. We, on this side of the House at any rate, have been attaching great weight to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture which was presided over by a very distinguished man from England. If I refer to those recommendations to-day, it is not my intention that the hon. Minister should accept them all blindly, but if in any case he disagrees with their recommendations, I want him to give us the reasons for it. Let him not stop with simply saying that he is too august a person to be bothered by such recommendations.

" The first point that I want to raise on this question is that there have been too many changes in the person of the head of this department. The Royal Commission has some very pertinent remarks to make on that point. They say:

'We, therefore, recommend that local Governments should select the best man available as Registrar; on no account should the post be regarded as a convenient refuge for an official promoted by seniority to Collector's rank. Administrative experience, knowledge of the people and their economic condition, and ability to enlist the co-operation of honorary workers, are essential qualifications. A Registrar, once appointed and proved efficient, should not be transferred from the post until the full benefit of continuity of policy has been assured. The minimum period during which he should hold the appointment should not be less than five years, on the assumption that he has already had two years' service as assistant or joint Registrar, and the maximum not more than ten.' (Page 454. Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture.) z

" The Commission assumes that a person who holds the office of Registrar has at least seven years service in the department. But what do we find in practice? For the last four or five years, I do not know how many Registrars have been appointed. First there was Mr. Gray, then came Mr. Hood. I do not know how long Mr. Hood was there. He was not in charge of the department on more than one occasion: at one time he went on long leave and at another time he was absent for some other purpose. During these periods other men held office. Now Mr. Strathie has come in and I do not know how long he is going to be kept in the department. I want to know whether the Government will carry out the principle enunciated by the Royal Commission on Agriculture or not. What is more, I want to ask another question also with regard to the appointment of the Registrar. The Royal Commission say:

'In order to ensure that future Registrars should possess the technical qualifications we have enumerated above we recommend that there should be an officer under training in all provinces. He could fill a leave vacancy, act for the Registrar, if he were sent on deputation to study conditions in Europe, or himself be placed on deputation for such study.'

22nd March 1932] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

" I should like to know from the hon. Minister who the understudy in the department is and whether they are training any one to fill the post of Registrar if it should fall vacant temporarily or permanently.

" One other point I would like to urge on the Government is that in making appointments of Deputy Registrars or Assistant Registrars of Co-operative Societies they must have some consideration for the lingnistic areas to which these people are appointed. Very often officers have no knowledge of the vernaculars of the places to which they are posted. This department is not like the Police department where the lathi is made to tell more eloquently than the spoken word. Here the officers have to move intimately and very closely with the people. We all know that an appeal made in the mother-tongue of the person has a greater effect than any amount of persuasion we may indulge in in a foreign tongue, although it is translated in the vernacular. Therefore this is a point to which the Government should apply their mind.

" Sir, we have got a number of serious problems in the Co-operative department. It is well-known that the department is not now at its best. Not very long ago a prominent co-operator tried to summarize the conditions of the co-operative movement in this Province. He analysed the condition of all the societies in this Province and arrived at some such conclusion like this:

' Out of 9,515 societies, 2,015 societies had overdues of between 30 and 45 per cent of the demand. Three thousand one hundred and fifty-eight societies have overdues of over 60 per cent of the demand. Two thousand six hundred and seventy-one societies are dormant.'

" Thus it is evident that 75 per cent of the societies demand immediate attention. If this was the state of affairs a few years ago, I can say without fear of contradiction that the conditions now are worse. Leave alone the primary societies even the central banks, I fear, require early attention in many respects. The other day we heard of the Guntur Bank going bankrupt. I am not sure that there are not other banks on the brink of a similar plight. The central banks are no longer declaring the same dividends as before; they are now obliged to draw upon the Divident Equalization Funds. Even then, they are not, in many cases, able to pay the usual dividends. Till now there was a glamour about this movement that the Government in some mysterious way were backing it up. That was to a large extent responsible for the faith of the people in it. Now that de-officialization is taking place rather rapidly, the people no longer think that Government is behind the movement as much as it once was. Therefore it behoves the Government to see that the people do not loose faith in the movement."

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Suggest ways."

* Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" The hon. Minister asks me to suggest ways. People who have suggested ways have not been listened to. If only he had gone through the reports of the various committees and

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [22nd March 1932

commissions which have gone into the matter thoroughly and made valuable recommendations, I think he would not now be asking me to make suggestions. Anyhow let me say what I think of the matter. I should ask the Government to examine the question in this way. Let them analyse the cases of people who are in debt to the societies and classify them into three categories. First of all there are people who under no circumstances will be able to pay back the money they borrowed from the co-operative societies. Then there are people who are in a position to pay back the money if only they have the will to do so. Then again there are others who cannot pay immediately, but require some time and facilities to be given to them to make repayments. Perhaps they may require the repayment to be spread over a larger number of instalments. If the condition is analysed in this way, we may be able to regulate the relief measures according to the necessities of each class of cases. For example, the Banking Enquiry Committee has suggested legislation to relieve rural indebtedness. I shall come to that point later if time permits.

" One of the most important questions—in fact the Townsend Committee called it a burning question—is the question of the relation between the Federation and the Central Banks. Mr. Townsend, the President of the Committee which goes by his name, said:

'The burning question as to whether supervision generally should be entrusted to central banks or federations—one of the most important questions we had to consider—gave us much thought. . . . That supervision should not be entrusted to banks I personally have no doubt whatever. In most provinces of India, supervision by the bank has not been successful. The present controversy on the question in Madras is largely due, I consider, to the fact which we have tried to bring out in paragraph 4 that some banks at any rate were brought into existence with the definite object not only of financing but also of supervising affiliated societies. But it is important to remember that when these banks first appeared federations had not been thought of. With two of my colleagues I examined in some little detail the rectification of bad societies which had been carried out on a fairly large scale by one central bank. I was not favourably impressed by it. The handing over of supervision to banks, would I consider, undoubtedly result in the immediate extinction of the federations and in a lapse into suspended animation, if not worse, of many unions.' (Page 136 of Report).

" This may be said to be the personal opinion of one individual Mr. Townsend who presided over the Committee. Let us see what is the opinion of the Committee as a whole in regard to this matter. The Committee say:

'The responsibilities of federations should include the exercise of general supervision over the work of unions and union supervisors, with special attention to the societies of the office bearers of unions. For these purposes federations should employ an adequate staff working directly under them. All supervisors should be on a district cadre, and their entertainment, transfer, and dismissal should vest in the federations; each union should however, exercise general control over the work of the supervisor in its area.

'We consider that federations and unions should be definitely responsible for co-operative propaganda in the villages: the responsibility for the organization of new societies should also be laid on them.

'We also recommend that federations should have more definite responsibility in the co-operative education of non-official workers . .' (Page 72 of Report.)

22nd March 1932] [Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar]

" This is what the Committee themselves say in regard to this matter. The Royal Commission on Agriculture also had a few words to say on this question. They say: ' The *attempt to devolve the work* of supervision on Central Banks is a wrong policy. We consider it desirable that finance and supervision should be under separate bodies.' I do not want to take up the time of the House by reading further extracts from that report. So far as we know that is the system which has been followed till recently. I know now that the policy has been deviated from recently. In this connexion, I attach not the slightest blame to the present Registrar. He honestly believes that the policy has to be changed. But I should like to know from the Government where they are in regard to this matter. I want my hon. Friend to understand clearly that I shall not grumble if they have revised their policy and laid down a new policy for the guidance of the department. But what I take strong exception to is the Government sitting on the fence, allowing the departmental head to do things in a different way from that hitherto in vogue and yet not taking on themselves the responsibility of telling him whether it is right or not. If they are for a change, let them say so. I do not want them to be silent in the matter, to be blind to what the departmental head is doing and not give him any lead in the matter.

" Again Sir, it has now become a fashion for the department to say: we are now only for rectification and consolidation and not for expansion. I think that is rather a wrong attitude to take. If as a result of experience they find they have committed some mistakes, by all means let them avoid those mistakes, but that should not prevent them from establishing new societies, especially non-credit societies. They should also expand in new ways while they are doing everything for rectifying and consolidating and eradicating bad societies.

" If my hon. Friend will turn to the latest report of the Banking 1-
Enquiry Committee, he will find a very considerable number of P
recommendations they have made for the better working of the Co-operative department. I should like to know from the hon. the Minister if all these recommendations are now under his consideration, if he is going to take any action in regard to them and, if so, what. These matters should not be left too much to the non-official agency; in other countries we find that the Government are taking a lead in these matters. When I referred yesterday to what was happening in New South Wales, I thought that the hon. the Minister doubted the accuracy of my statement. Will he definitely tell me whether the information furnished by me is correct or not? I would like to know that from him. But I believe I am right because I had chapter and verse for the statements I made. I said, at the time, that the Government there were giving seed and other assistance to the people and allowed the farmers to have all the harvest for themselves. Now, Sir, I will tell him another thing, i.e., that the Ministry of Agriculture in England has been demonstrating to the farmers

[Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar] [22nd March 1932

improved methods of marketing during the summer months. These demonstrations have been of great help to the people. We have all these activities there. I would like to know from the hon. the Minister what work he is doing here similar to the activities which are carried on elsewhere, what he is doing here to educate people on the non-credit side of the work and to develop it."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, with many of the remarks that have fallen from my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, I quite agree. But in a matter like co-operation, things have to be learnt more by experience than by mere reference to what is being done in other countries. I happened to be a member of the Committee whose remarks my learned Friend referred to. I have been always saying that it is dangerous in matters like co-operation which affect intimately the life of the people, to have stereotyped institutions. We should allow ample room for evolution and ample room for adjustment of matters as is found compatible with the interests of each place and each institution.

" With regard to federation, I was one of those who wanted to give a chance to the federation and I was intimately connected with the working of the federation in my district. Later, the difficulties that arose forced me to the conclusion that the existence of the federation as a separate institution was not in the interest of the co-operative movement as a whole. (Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Do the Government say so?) I am giving out my own experience. So far as the working of the institution in my district was concerned, with the best of intentions, I thought there was much scope for misunderstanding; there was scope for deadlock in the actual working of the movement in the district by the existence of two institutions side by side. So far as my district was concerned, I may say that there was no difficulty because I happened to be the President of both the institutions, the Bank and the Federation, and I was able to get whatever I wanted for the one from the other. All the same I thought that, in the working of the institutions, there was ample scope for misunderstanding and trouble in the future. I did not want to allow such a state of things as had these potentialities, to continue. It was on account of that we ultimately came to the conclusion that the Bank should undertake to do the work of supervision by a separate committee of its own. So far as the financial side was concerned, it should be kept separate within the same institution itself. We framed this constitution for ourselves and we have been working it for the last two years ; we have had no difficulty whatever. That is our experience. I am not saying that the same sort of arrangement should be made in every district all over the Presidency. All I say is that it ought to be open to each institution and to the co-operators of each district to find out ways for improving the work of both supervision and finance, and to decide how they are going to work. I very strongly urge on the Government not to interfere with the actual arrangements which each

22nd March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

district wants to have for itself, but to allow each district to follow its own scheme. That is absolutely necessary.

"Having said this much, I should very strongly differ from what my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, said with regard to Federation.

"He said that the Federation and the Union were more or less on the same footing and that if the Federation goes, then the Union also practically followed it. It is not only he who seems to have that idea; if I am not mistaken, the opinion of the head of the department at the present moment seems to be more or less inclined in the same direction. I should very strongly oppose that idea. Here again I want to say that my statements are based on the experience I have got in my own district. The Unions themselves are practically managing the Bank. The very people who are managing the Societies are looking after the interests of the Bank also. Except one or two of us who are not connected with the Rural Primary Societies, others are there as representatives of the Unions and they are managing very well indeed. I should personally think that it will be a bad day for the Co-operative movement if the Unions are to be abolished. I would request the Government to think well before they take any definite step which will have the effect of weakening the Unions and making them powerless in any way.

"I should like to draw the attention of the hon. the Minister to the draft notification which he has issued. He wants that audit fees on a very high scale should be charged for all Societies which have got a turn-over of Rs. 20,000 a year or which have got a membership of over 500. With regard to the latter, I have no complaint. With regard to the former, its effect will be that most of the Societies will leave the Unions; the result will be the Unions will be very much weakened. The result of the draft notification will be that Societies will try to avoid the audit fees. Then these Societies will have to join an Audit Union that is going to be formed and they will have to leave the Supervising Union. Supervising Unions stand or fall with the good Societies. If the good Societies withdraw, the result will be the Unions will collapse. So, the indirect effect of the notification published by the hon. Minister, is to weaken the Unions and to put a stop to the working of some of the good Unions all over the Presidency. With regard to my own district, I know that many of the good Unions will suffer. Such a state of things is, I think, not contemplated by the Government and they will see that the draft notification is not confirmed as it is. I would very earnestly ask the hon. Minister to say whether he is not going too far by reducing the minimum for paying audit fees. The original notification issued by him was that the turn-over should be Rs. 50,000. I do not know why he changed his mind afterwards. He first issued a notification fixing the minimum of Rs. 50,000. Without considering the matter carefully, he has published another notification reducing the

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [22nd March 1932

minimum to Rs. 20,000, which is wholly unjustifiable. I hope he will reconsider the position and raise the figure to that originally settled by himself.

"I need say only this about the position in the Co-operative movement. We are in a most critical stage of the movement. Over-dues are increasing and we have to tackle all sorts of difficulties arising in connexion with the movement. Strong action is necessary. The question is 'who is going to take that strong action?' The answer which the head of the department at the present moment seems to have is this: 'You, Banks, are the persons interested in these Societies; you finance the Societies; you had better undertake that responsibilty.' Sir, that is putting the case too much against us. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, observed, it was the Government that undertook that responsibility; everybody is thinking that the Government are at the back of the movement. To ask the Banks to undertake the responsibility is, to say the least, not good. I hope the hon. the Minister will consider the position and see whether the Government will not continue to take some share in the responsibility in the matter.

"There is only one other matter to which I wish to refer. The hon. the Minister has succeeded in getting through the House a comprehensive Bill in connexion with the Co-operative Societies. It is up to him now to see that the rules are sympathetically framed, so that the movement will spread far and wide. I would ask him to lose no time in framing the rules and in having everything ready to put the new Bill into force. I would specially refer to the agency which the Government have to set up for the execution of the orders and decrees. We have found that the ordinary civil courts and the agency of the Revenue department have not been as prompt in getting our orders and decrees executed. Therefore, with the full consent of the people in the movement, the Government have introduced a provision in the Bill giving power to the Registrar to employ his own agency for the purpose of the execution of the decrees. No time should be lost at all. I hope the Government will take very early steps to bring that agency into existence. The co-operative movement is at a very critical stage. I hope the hon. the Minister will co-operate with the officials and non-officials in whatever steps that is possible to take and to place the movement on a satisfactory footing. Unfortunately at the present moment, the non-official institution of the Province which represents the movement is not officially recognized.

"I want him to examine the position and see whether a authoritative non-official body cannot be reconstituted if necessary in such a way that he can co-operate with it and take its advice in the ordering of this department. I hope, Sir, erelong he will examine this suggestion with respect to the non-official agency now available in the Province and give it the status that they deserve. I also hope, Sir, he will get himself into touch with non-official opinion in such a way that the Government can really be helping the movement, as it deserves to be helped."

22nd March 1932]

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. G. Simhachalam :—" Mr. President, Sir, as one intimately connected with the co-operative movement in the district to which I belong, as Secretary of the Union, President of the Central Bank and Secretary of the Federation, I feel I am bound to say something in connexion with the general policy that is now being pursued by the Government in the Co-operative department. Sir, two committees have gone into the question, one in the year 1915 and another in 1927. For the happy growth of the movement in this Province with a view to maintain a continuity of policy, the Townsend Committee made specific recommendations with regard to the appointment of the Government staff. Their recommendations are that the Registrar should hold office for five years, that there are advantages in the appointment as Registrar of an Indian gentleman and that if a Registrar is to be appointed he should be attached to the department for at least six months before taking office and so on and so forth. None of the recommendations seem to have been given effect to in our province. No such training was given to the Registrars before they were entertained and there is no guarantee that the officer appointed is kept on for five years. Therefore, there is much scope for mismanagement, and continuity of policy cannot be maintained effectively.

" One other recommendation Mr. Townsend who happened to be the President of the Committee seems to have suggested to the Government is this: ' The proposal is that Government arrange to have at their disposal the honorary services of a banking expert on financial matters. If the gentleman once selected be satisfactory, he should not be changed without adequate cause, wherever he be posted in the Presidency. There are, I am confident, many bankers in the Presidency interested in co-operative work who would accept the post, and willingly offer advice on financial problems submitted to them from time to time by the Registrar. I do not think that the management of his bank would object to the gentleman selected undertaking this work, which would be done by correspondence '. I do not know if the Government had made any attempts in this direction, to maintain continuity of policy in the manner suggested by the President of the Committee. Now, what is actually happening at the time of the inspection of Central Banks is that these Deputy Registrars will say that the account-keeping is not good; but how it should be maintained, they are not able to say in their inspection notes. That is exactly why Mr. Townsend seems to have felt the necessity of making such a recommendation. The Townsend Committee also specifically mentioned that Inspectors who are recruited must possess certain qualifications. That recommendation too does not seem to have been given effect to. They also specifically stated how the audit should be done. Evidently, the type of audit that is now going on is not on the lines indicated by the Townsend Committee. The Guntur Urban Bank is certainly a typical instance to show that the kind of audit that is now going on is not up

[Mr. G. Simhachalam] [22nd March 1932

to the mark. The people have therefore reason to lose faith in the audit. May I therefore appeal to the hon. the Minister to investigate into the matter and see that the recommendations of the Townsend Committee with regard to the appointment of inspectors and also of the staff be given effect to, of course, if the financial position permits? No doubt I find a steady increase in the overdues in almost every Central Bank, particularly in the Guntur district. Liquidation is not of course the only solution to decrease the overdues in any Central Bank. A rectification and consolidation scheme is a possible solution. The reasons for the steady increase in overdues are many, one cause being the economic depression and the other irresponsible loaning. When times are favourable, people wanted to take loans and when prices were high, they thought that their properties would be adequate security. Now, owing to the sudden fall in prices, people are unable to repay the loans they have taken. Hence the steadiness in the increase of overdues. In my district particularly, in view of the recent scandal, people are very much disappointed and therefore, to inspire confidence, we have started the rectification and consolidation scheme. Now again the question comes as to who should run the rectification and consolidation scheme—the Federation or the Central Bank? In the recommendations of the Townsend Committee, they have specifically stated that at the request of the Central Bank, the Federation, if it is well-equipped, if it entertains a qualified staff, can take up the rectification scheme and conduct it. So, the rectification scheme has been launched in Guntur, and the highest authority on co-operation in our Presidency Mr. Frederick Nicholson, has also been requested by the Central Bank to favour them with his remarks. It is anxiously being awaited. He had the kindness to reply that he would go through the scheme and favour us with his remarks as early as possible. So, Sir, in view of the fact that the people are in a further difficult position in Guntur on account of the recent scandal, I appeal to the hon. Minister to give his special attention to our district in this matter, because the Presidency Officer seems to think that federation is an unnecessary waste of funds. Now, Sir, the Federation and the Central Bank have conjointly launched this scheme and the scheme is being vigorously pushed through; and it is not safe to take any drastic action against the Central Bank and prevent it from pushing through this scheme. Liquidation process is going on rapidly in my district and heavy sums are being involved in the liquidated societies. With the staff the Deputy Registrar has got at his command, viz., only one inspector for liquidation business, I do not know how the department will be able to recover all the overdues in case the societies are liquidated. The Townsend Committee has also suggested means to recover the overdues when the societies have undergone the process of liquidation, and I would request the hon. Minister to give effect to the recommendation of the Townsend Committee with regard to societies which have gone into the liquidation process. Some responsible non-official may be entrusted with the liquidation process and paid some commission, or

22nd March 1932] [Mr. G. Simhachalam]

some vakil practising in the place may be entrusted with the work. That is what they consider is an easy method of recovering overdues. At least, it is a better method than the liquidation inspector going and trying to realize all the moneys.

" With regard to execution proceedings, no doubt large sums are involved in execution proceedings in my district. Of course the hon. Minister has been pleased to make a provision in the Act authorizing the Registrar to execute the decrees as in the case of land revenue; but it may take some time before the Act comes into force. In the meantime, the Townsend Committee's recommendation may be given effect to. Mr. Townsend observed that in the case of one district, the Collector asked the Tahsildars to furnish him with progress statements as to how far they have been able to realize the amounts covered by the decrees and that has had a tremendous effect. I request the Government to adopt the same policy even now, till at least the new Act comes into force.

" With regard to co-ordination of work with various departments, may I suggest that a permanent Board of Economic Enquiry as in the Punjab may be established in our province? Or, like the one suggested by Mr. Paul which he calls ' the District Development Board ' to co-ordinate the activities of the various departments of Government engaged in the district in regard to its economic improvement and general welfare. He says that the Board must comprise of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, the District Labour Officer, the District Health Officer, the District Educational Officer, the President of the District Bank, the President of the District Federation, the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the President of the District Board and co-opted members. The Deputy Registrar shall be its Secretary, *ex-officio*. He will report to the Registrar periodically on the working of the Board. With regard to finance, he suggests that ' the financial needs of the work of the Board should be very meagre. But whatever it is, it should be provided for in the regular budget of the Deputy Registrar '. I appeal to the hon. the Minister to find out if this is possible to be introduced in our province. "

* Rao Sahib B. VENKATARAMAYYA NAYUDU :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to make a few observations with regard to this subject. One of the most important ways designed to help the ryot is the co-operative movement. No doubt it was started with good intentions, but precious little has been done in this direction. There is no use trying to shift the responsibility from the Government to other hands. What I mean to say is that the Government themselves should find money to be placed at the disposal of the Central Banks, so as to effectually finance societies with a view to relieve the ryot population. Instead of doing that, they say that there is a Provincial Co-operative Bank which will do the business of the Government. To illustrate my point, I may quote, Sir, from the recent Administration Report of the Madras Presidency for the year 1930–31. Under the head ' Co-operative Societies ', this is what they say :

[Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu] [22nd March 1932

'The Co-operative movement was severely affected by the economic depression, which, in conjunction with an unfavourable season, produced a serious financial crisis. Despite the most strenuous efforts all round to improve collection, there was a general increase in balances overdue. The Central Banks fell into arrears with repayments to the Provincial Bank, which, as a consequence, had not sufficient funds to meet their demands in the first quarter of the year'.

"So, Sir, they say that the Provincial Bank was unable to advance money to meet the demands of the Central Bank. That seems to be the policy that has been continued by the Government. Again the Government raised a sum of 10 lakhs last year to relieve the ryots from the situation in which they were placed. Now, Sir, a sum of 10 lakhs has been given. Why? As it has been observed on the floor of this House before, it was given with a view to help the speedy collection of their own revenue. During kist collection season, Government advance some money not really with a view to help the needy ryots. So long as this state of affairs continues, so long as the Government do not really feel that they should alleviate the sufferings of the ryot by setting aside a sufficient sum of money year after year in order to advance money to the ryots, the position of the agricultnral population will not really improve. The department also is doing great injustice to them, for they advance only small sums of money to the ryots which will not be sufficient for them to meet their demands. On the other hand, the sowcar who usually helps them by giving them loans whenever they require, is now unwilling to advance any sum to them. Thus they are between the devil and the deep sea.

"Of course, Sir, a number of societies have been started. So far there are about 13,000 societies, which number is certainly not much when compared with the requirements of the vast population of this Presidency. The object of the movement is to help the ryots by granting loans to them and this can only be done by giving the long term loans. As it is, loans are granted to them only for a year or two and they are compelled to repay the amount within the specified date. Unless and until a system of granting long term loans is introduced, there will be really no help rendered to the ryot population from the department.

"Then, Sir, there was another suggestion made and pressed upon the Government, that is, that there should be many land mortgage banks started in the Province so as to enable the ryots to get the snm needed by them. But, I ask, what has been done in this direction by the Government? I find from the Administration Report on page 61 that 37 land mortgage banks were started for the whole of the Presidency. It is also stated that: 'Eleven primary land mortgage banks were organized and the registration of one other was cancelled. There were thus 37 such banks at the end of the year with a membership of 5,128. Thirteen banks, however, did no work except collection of capital.' So that there are now about 24 such societies practically working. Now I would ask you, Sir, what good is it that these land

22nd March 1932] [Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu]

mortgage banks are doing for the public. Absolutely nothing. More than 5 crores of rupees is needed if really any relief is to be afforded to the ryots. Sir, even considering the amount of about 163·5 lakhs that was disbursed as loans to members, as stated in the last year's report, I submit, it bears no real proportion to the amount of money that is needed by the people.

"Coming to other forms of societies, there is need for a large nnmber of building societies and other special societies. Unless that is done, the co-operative movement will not be of any use to the public at large.

"In the latest Government Order relating to resettlement in the Godavari and Kistna districts, we notice that one of the hopes given was that the system of co-operative marketing will be introduced so as to place the ryots in a better position. We do not know, so far, whether any such proposals have emanated to put that idea into practice. If that has not been done already, I hope the Government will carry out their promise.

"Sir, in regard to the unsatisfactory way in which various societies in the Presidency have been working, no doubt there have been complaints that there has been too much of official control. If the societies are to be worked satisfactorily, whenever it is found there is misappropriation of funds of the societies or of the banks, it must be rigorously dealt with. If they have not been dealt with in the past, it is necessary that they should be dealt with at least hereafter. Of course, there may be pressure from this side or that, or influences may be brought to bear on those who are administering the department to condone or excuse the people concerned, but that does not matter. Because they have not taken action in the past and because they did not take action when the evil began to appear, it did not do that they should sit quiet without taking action. We find in very many places in very many societies large amounts of public money have been misappropriated by the Presidents or Secretaries of the various societies concerned. This is indeed a deplorable state of things. Now there is too much of this wrong-doing and it must be put an end to with a strong hand if the public are really to have confidence in the efficient working of the societies.

"Then, Sir, a word or two about the working of the federations. Of course during the administration of one of the Registrars, the starting of these federations was inaugurated. That was the pet scheme of one Registrar, but in actual practice, it only showed that it only enabled certain persons to get some honorary offices by way of membership or presidentship or secretaryship of Federations, etc. Sir, I was myself the President of the Federation in my own district for three or four years and with my experience I can assert that the existence of these federations does no good whatsoever. If it does

[Mr. B. Venkataramayya Nayudu] [22nd March 1932

exist at all and if it does any work at all, it is to the disadvantage of the central banks and these central banks look with jealousy on the existence of these federations and there is often friction between these two bodies. Therefore, it is very desirable that these federations should be abolished and the central banks should be allowed to supervise the working of the unions under their control.

" There is also another matter to which I wish to refer and that is the way in which Government is trying to make money out of the Co-operative movement. What I mean to say is that they have recently introduced the system of levying registration fees. If really their object is to help the ryot by this movement, I submit this rule of collecting half-fee in respect of registration of documents is not conducive to the progress of the movement. The sooner the system is abolished the better for the public. There have also been complaints about this matter from various places and there have also been protests about this system and I would therefore appeal to the hon. Minister to look to this matter and get this system abolished as soon as possible.

" As I put it at the outset, whatever might be done by the Government, unless they feel that they have got a duty to the ryot, that they really sympathize with the ryot, that they really feel for the sufferings of the ryot population, especially in these days of economic depression and are really anxious to provide him with funds and enable him to tide over his financial difficulties, no good results will follow; there is no good of stating that so many societies are working, so many unions are supervising them, so many Sub-Deputy and Deputy Registrars are checking the work of the movement and that the Registrar is doing his level best to bring in the millennium and that Government have advanced 10 lakhs of rupees to relieve the ryots—all these will be good for nothing. So, I would appeal to the Government—and follow the example in other countries—to allot separate sums of money in the Budget and not to simply throw the responsibility on to the shoulders of somebody else. It may be said that there are the banks and that the Provincial Bank gets deposits and if they require any more money, they can get over-draft, from the Imperial Bank and that they can adjust matters among themselves. That should not be. I, therefore, appeal to the hon. Minister at least hereafter to have large sums of money set apart in the Budget to be advanced to the societies for relieving the ryots from the difficulties they are put to."

*Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder:—" Mr. President, Sir, my object in speaking on this occasion is merely to point out that the time has come for the Government to withdraw the State-paid agency from the field of co-operation altogether. The policy with which the movement was originally started was to train the people for co-operative work and ultimately to leave the machinery of the movement entirely in their own hands. This movement was started in this Presidency more than two decades ago and it is a long enough time that the staff should have done the work for which they were originally intended, namely to train

22nd March 1932] [Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder]

the people in co-operation. I do not think the policy of the Government is merely that of a collecting agency. Now I think it is time, when the department have done their work and have trained the people in the art of co-operation, to come away from the field and to de-officialise the movement. I do not for one moment suggest that this should be done all at once, but that a definite step should be taken with a view to leave the movement in the hands of non-official agencies before long."

Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I have given notice of a cut motion, namely, to reduce the allotment of Rs. 10,71,800 for Co-operative Credit Societies by Rs. 100 to bring to the notice of the Government the need for their taking immediate steps to introduce a Bill in the local Legislature for opening a Central Co-operative Credit Presidency Artisan Bank at the Metropolis and also for organizing its branches at various required localities for the exclusive use of the occupational classes of Presidency on the lines of the Central Land Mortgage Bank so as to encourage indigenous industries. 3 p.m.

" Sir, as all the representative bodies in the country are under the influence of landholders and landed interests, the administration of the country is carried on in a way conducive only to their interests. Madras Presidency is no exception to this. No legislative measure has been brought forward by the Government to materially help the poor industrial worker, though popular leaders say that the fortune of the country mainly depends upon the revival and development of industries. It has proved to be only tall talk, for they have never endeavoured to see that legislative measures to help the artisans are passed. Indigenous industrial enterprise has been killed as a result of the condemnation of manual labour including arts and crafts in the books written by ancient Sanskrit literary workers. It is only as a result of this that the people who follow these professions are being looked down upon even to-day by the Hindu community with the result that inventive genius has disappeared from them. Add to this the import of machine-made articles from the western countries and the competition of Japan have strangled the few handicrafts that have survived the national hatred created by the Brahman writers who are mainly responsible for the industrial downfall of India. Is it not then the duty of the Government to come to the rescue of these craftsmen with a fresh measure which is calculated to help them and see that arts and crafts do not cease to exist? I may be reminded of the existence in the Statute Book of the State Aid to Industries Act. But I submit that the bulk of artisans in rural parts have not derived any help from the said Act and I am sorry to say that even otherwise it is only a dead letter. Though it has been represented to Government that the grant of unreclaimed waste and occupied darkhast (poramboke) lands useful for single and double crops, disafforested blocks of forests reserved for the Government and house-sites on ordinary darkhast rules to artisans will encourage the development of cottage industries, the Government have not yet made a move in the matter."

[22nd March 1932

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"On a point of order, Mr. President, is the hon. Member speaking on Co-operation?"

* The hon. the President:—"Yes. The hon. Member is making suggestions regarding the channels in which the activities of the department may be directed."

* Pandit Ganala Ramamurti:—"The present economic depression in the country has helped to crush down the already down-trodden artisan communities in the villages. Unless the Government who ought to protect and uplift every community now come to their rescue, there is no hope for them.

"Just as the manual labourers revolted against the clergy in one and all countries in the world, the artisan communities in India questioned the social superiority of the Brahmans. But unlike in other parts of the world, they became victims to the manœuvres of the Brahman who playing upon the religious instincts of the masses won them over to his side. Even after the establishment of British rule in India, the Brahman dominated the political spheres and crushed down the artisan communities through his political power. But the late lamented M.R.Ry. Bangalore Madhurayachariar Avargal agitated against this Brahman supremacy in the governance of the country. Thus it will be seen that it is the artisan communities that led the way to the general revolt against the Brahman superiority in religious, social and political matters. Though the Justice Party which has come into existence with the same objects has risen into power (hear, hear) and has been administering the Presidency for the past twelve years so far as the Transferred Departments are concerned, I ask in all humility what they have done to improve the lot of the artisan community. (Hear, hear.) I am sorry to say that they have done nothing in this direction despite the fact that with the exception of two European Members they occupy all places in the Cabinet. To remedy this deplorable condition of the artisans and to have the everlasting gratitude of the community, the Government will do well to introduce a Bill in the local legislature for the establishment of a Central Co-operative Credit Presidency Artisan Bank at the Metropolis with various branches at the required localities for the exclusive use of the occupational classes so as to encourage indigenous industries on the lines of the Land Mortgage Bank. But the Government may say that they have no funds to do the same in these days of economic depression. This may be true. But I would only appeal to the hon. the Minister for Public Works that he may be pleased to assure, that he would take up this measure at his earliest convenience." (Applause.)

* Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai:—"Mr. President, Sir, the existence of the co-operative societies is considered to be an inspiration to those poor people who wish to exercise thrift. The depressed classes are and have been suffering from economic distress and the public as well as the Government were very eager to improve their economic condition. With that view many co-operative societies were brought into existence all over the districts of the Province. The Government found

22nd March 1932] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

that there should be some special attention paid to these societies as otherwise most of them will have to be liquidated. Therefore they appointed a special officer under the Labour Commissioner to look after the societies. Now, I see that no provision has been made in the Budget for continuance of the special officer—I do not know if the Retrenchment Committee has recommended the abolition of the post. Such a step will mean that there will not be that amount of check and supervision over the depressed classes co-operative societies as hitherto. Sir, I find from the last annual report of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, that 969 societies have been handed over by the Labour Department to the Co-operative Department. If this is to be the order of the day, I would like to know from the hon. the Minister for Public Works whether he has made any special arrangements to have supervision over these societies. If there is no such arrangement, I must appeal to the hon. Minister with all earnestness that something must be done so that there may be regular attention paid to these societies that have been started in the interests of the depressed classes.

" Sir, a word on the Land Mortgage Banks. Even from the very commencement we have been telling the Government that it should not be for particular communities and that it must be placed on a territorial basis, and some of us on the committee even told the Government that the system of tenure obtaining among the hill tribes is not conducive to the formation of institutions on communal basis. Sir, I find from the report of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies the following:

'The chief obstacle in its progress are the facts that the poorer Badagas do not own single pattas and have little repaying capacity.'

" This is with reference to the Land Mortgage Banks. This aspect was discussed and shown to the Government in the earlier stages. The Government brought a man from Erode or Pollachi and was made Secretary when people with local knowledge were available. Now they have decided to close the Bank. I do not think that this is a very good move in Co-operative enterprise.

" On one other point I wish to draw the attention of the Government and that is about the building societies. I know that as a matter of fact the Government have dumped large amounts in these building societies and try to impose their rules. Those who are placed in authority do not take into consideration the decision of the Board of Directors. This causes a certain amount of feeling among the Board of Directors who after all are honorary workers and I would appeal to the hon. Minister to find some way whereby the recommendations of the Board of Directors may be given better consideration than hitherto.

" Sir, another point I have to say regarding the Co-operative Societies in the Nilgiris. In cases referred for arbitration special officers have to come all the way from Coimbatore. If honorary arbitrators are appointed from the locality itself, it will mean a good collection of overdues. Of course there are various societies in the locality and people who have intimate knowledge of the Co-operative movement and of the

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [22nd March 1932

rules. If this thing is to be adopted by the Government, it will save a lot of money and will result in better collections."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDA addressed the House in Tamil as follows:—

15 n. "கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே ! ஐக்ய நாணய இயக்கத்தின் நோக்கம் நன்றாக இல்லை. தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் ஷ இயக்கம் பெரிதும் கேட்டையே விளைக்கின்றது. சிக்கனமாக பணஞ் சேர்ப்பதும் கொடுக்கல்வாங்கல் செய்வதும் கூட்டுறவு முறையில் பொருள் வருவாயைக் காண்டலுமேயாம். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கென நேராறுவிக்கும் சங்கங்களால் ஷ நோக்கங்கள் நடைபெறுவதற்கில்லை. குடியிருப்பு வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கும் பணங்களை வசூலிப்பதற்கே சங்கங்கள் ஏற்படுத்தப்படுகின்றன. ஆகவே மனைக்கட்டு கடன்களை வசூலிப்பதற்குச் சங்கங்களேயொழிய ஐக்கிய இயக்கத்தின் நோக்கத்திற்காகவன்று. மனைகள் வாங்கித்தர செல்லும் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்கள் கிராமங்களுக்குச் சென்று வாங்குமிடத்திற்குச் சொந்தக்காரர்களிடம் தங்கியிருந்து அவர்களது உபசரிப்பை ஏற்றுக்கொண்டு அவர்களது உபசரிப்புக்குக் கைம்மாறாக அவர்களது நிலங்களுக்கு மூன்று மடங்கு நான்கு மடங்கு விலையிட்டு ஏழை தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களின் தலையில் சுமத்திவிடுகிறார்கள். இவ்வாறு பல கிராமங்களில் நடைபெற்றுள்ளன. உதாரணமாக சிதம்பரம் தாலூகா, சத்திவிளாகம் கிராமத்தை எடுத்துக்கொள்ளுங்கள் அங்கு நிலத்திற்கு நான்குமடங்கு விலையிட்டு ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் தலையில் கட்டினார்கள். பின்னர் அவர்கள் கமிஷனர் முதலானவர்களுக்குத் தெரிவித்து அவர்களும் சென்று பார்த்து அந்த அக்கிரமத்தை உணர்ந்தார்கள். இன்னும் அவர்களுக்கு விமோசனம் உண்டாகவில்லை. வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கும் நிலங்கள் உடனேயும் வீடுகட்ட லாயக்கானதாயிராது. சில இடங்களில் லாயக்கானதாயிருக்கிறது. ஆனால், அதனை களமென்றும், மாடுகள் தங்கக்கூடிய இடமென்றும் இன்னும் பலவிதமான ஆட்சேபங்கள் செய்து நிறுத்திவிடுவார்கள் கிராமத்தார்கள். அதனால் அதிக விலையுள்ள நஞ்சை நிலங்களை வாங்கிக் கொடுப்பார்கள். அதனை தூர்த்துக் கட்டிக்கொள்ள வசதியில்லாமல் சங்கடப்பட்டுக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்.

"தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு ஏற்படுத்தியுள்ள சங்கங்களில் 12 ரூபாய்கள் வட்டியாகின்றன. சில இடங்களில் நூற்றுக்கு மேலாகவும் மனைக்கட்டுக்கு விலையிட்டுள்ளார்கள். தண்டேஸ்வரநல்லூரில் மனைக்கட்டு ஒன்று நூற்றைம்பது ரூபாய்களாகின்றன. அங்கு மாதம் ஒன்றுக்கு ஒரு ரூபாய் கட்டிக்கொண்டுவந்தால் வட்டியிலேயே வருஷத்தில் ஆறு ரூபாய்கள் பாக்கியில் நிற்கின்றன. இருபதாவது வருஷ இறுதியில் வட்டியில் நூற்றிருபதும், முதல் நூற்றைம்பதும் ஆக இருநூற்றெழுபது ரூபாய்கள் கடனாக நிற்கின்றன. இது வரைக்கும் வட்டியாகக் கொடுத்தது இருநூற்று நாற்பதும் போக பாக்கி நின்ற இருநூற்றிருபது அவன் சொத்துக்களை கொண்டுபோகின்றன. ஆகவே ஐக்கிய நாணயத்தின் தற்போதைய முறையால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு யாதொரு நன்மையும் பயலாமல் ஏழைகளுக்கு அனாவசியமாக நாநூற்றறுபது ரூபாய்கள் வீண் சிலவாக ஏற்படுகின்றன. இது விஷயமாக இக்கனந்தங்கிய சபையில் கடந்த ஆறு ஆண்டுகளாகக் கூச்சலிட்டும் அரசாங்கத்தார் செவி சாய்க்கவில்லை. தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு மனைகட்டு விஷயமாக ஏற்பட்டுள்ள கடன்களுக்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் தயாவிஷயமாக வட்டியைத் தள்ளி முதலை மாத்திரம் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளுமாறு வேண்டுகிறேன். வட்டியைத் தள்ளிவிட்டால் வரும்பணமெல்லாம் முதலுக்கு வரவாகுமாதலால் கடன்கள் அடைந்துவிடும். யானிருக்கும் South Arcot ஜில்லாவில் 193 சங்கங்களிருக்கின்றன. அதில் லேபர் டிபார்ட்மெண்டில் 25 சொஸைட்டிகளிருக்கின்றன. ரெகுலர் இலாகாவிடம் 168 சங்கங்கள் ஒப்படைக்கப்பட்டுள்ளன. இச்சங்கங்களை மேற்பார்க்கும் இன்ஸ்பெக்டர்களுக்கு வருஷத்தில் ஆராயிர ரூபாய்கள் செலவழிகின்றன. ஐயாயிர ரூபாய்கள் வசூலாவதில்லை. இதனால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கும் யாதொரு நன்மையும் யேற்படுவதில்லை. அரசாங்கத்தார்க்கும் யாதொரு பயனுமில்லை. ஆதலால் வட்டியைத்தள்ளி தக்காவிமுறையில் வருஷாந்திரம் ரெவினியு கிஸ்தி வாங்கும்போதே இந்தப் பணங்களையும் வசூலித்துவிடலாம். வட்டியைத் தள்ளிக்கொடுக்க வேண்டுகிறேன்.

22nd March 1932] [Swami A. S. Sahajananda]

" சங்கங்கள் கடனை வசூலிக்குஞ் சங்கங்களாகவே இருக்கின்றன. இவற்றால் ஆதிதிராவிடர்கள் முன்னுக்கு வரமுடியாது. தென்னார்க்காடு ஜில்லாவில் முழுக் கடனும் சுமார் முப்பதினாயிரத்துக்கு மேலிராது. இதை அரசாங்கத்தார் தள்ளி விட வேண்டுகிறேன். அரசாங்கத்தார் எவ்வளவோ விஷயங்களில் அனாவசிய மாகச் செலவழிக்கிறார்கள். தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்கள் விஷயத்தில் மனைக்கட்டு கடன் களைத் தள்ளிவிட்டால் தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர் முன்னேற்றம் பெறுவார்கள். இது விஷயத்தில் அரசாங்கத்தார் கருணைகாட்டவேண்டுகிறேன.

" தஞ்சாவூர் ஜில்லாவில் வேலை முடிந்துவிட்டதாக நிருவாக ரிப்போர்ட்டில் குறிப் பிட்டுள்ளது. அங்கு 24, 25 வருஷங்களில் கட்டிய பணங்களை அரசாங்கத்தார் தற்போது மனைக்கட்டு வாங்கிக்கொடாமல் திருப்புகிறார்கள். சீர்காழி தாலூகா, விளந்திரசமுத்திரம், தென்பாதி, அகனூர், கைவிளாஞ்சேரி, திருவாலி, முத லான இடங்களிலுள்ள ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு மனை வாங்கிக்கொடாமல் திருப்பு வதால் மிராசுதாரர்களுக்கும் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கும் குழப்பமாயிருக்கிறது. கனம் மந்திரியவர்கள் ஆதிதிராவிடர்களுக்கு நல்வழியுண்டாக்க வேண்டுகிறேன். "

* The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Mr. President, Sir, apparently my remarks this morning with reference to the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Commission were misunderstood; for it is obvious from the speech of the hon. Member, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar. With regard to that I may say this. I have got the greatest respect for Commissions and specially for Royal Commissions, and I have got equal respect for their recommendations. Because their recommendations have not been accepted, you should not expect that I have no respect for those recommendations. You must remember that after all those recommendations will have to be examined by this Government, or rather by those responsible for the administration of those recommendations if they are to be given effect to. It is only in that view that I said this morning that I would consider the recommendations of the Royal Agricultural Commission. I now say that not only those recommendations but also the recommendations of other committees will be examined by Government and given effect to in so far as the conditions of this province permit. I hope I have made myself clear. (Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: ' Yes, very clear.')

" My friend, Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, referred to the appointment of the Registrar and in order to strengthen his case he quoted a passage from the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. All that the Commissioners say with reference to this appointment is that we should get a suitable man and appoint him as Registrar. There is nothing new about it. That is what this Government have been doing all these years. They appoint a certain gentleman as Registrar and keep him there for five years. With regard to this the recommendation of the Commissioners is that the officer should be kept in the post for ten years. I do not think administratively it is possible to do so. For it happens in some cases the officer does not like to stay on for a longer period than five years.

" My friend asked me in this connexion, who is the man ready to take up the place of the present Registrar at the end of the period? 3-P-

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [22nd March 1932

Have you got anybody in your view to train to that post? I may say the man who will take his place will probably be the Joint Registrar. As for the under study the Government are considering the possibility of deputing an officer of the department to study the working of the có-operative movement in foreign countries. If that scheme goes through and if the officer so trained is found fit he may be appointed as Registrar later on. Suggestion is made that officers who are posted to various districts should be conversant with the language of the locality. It is needless for me to say that Government are always guided by this principle, whenever they post their officers. Sometimes it so happens that they could not do so as officers are not easily available. Appointments to various departments are made according to the communal rotation and it may be possible to choose the men on a linguistic basis also. I shall certainly consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend. He charged the Government saying that they have no policy or if they had one that they are changing every now and then. I presume this is with reference to his pet scheme namely federation. *(Laughter.)* If I am right in my presumption I may tell him that the Government had at no time expressed themselves one way or other. No doubt the previous Registrar believed in federation and so encouraged their formation. If in course of time federations were to become unworkable in at least some of the districts, conflict between federations and central banks become more perceptible. The attitude of the present Registrar is probably at variance with that of his predecessor. The tendency seems to be more towards central banks rather than federations. There are two schools of thought on this question. One wants the central banks and the other wants federations. In a popular movement like this it may not be advisable for Government to impose federation. I am willing to allow the districts to express their opinion as to whether they want federation or not. If they want it, Government will not stand in their way. Anyhow it is not possible for me to express my opinion one way or other at this stage. Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar along with others expressed that the movement is in a bad way. I agree with them. Societies are being mismanaged and the overdues are increasing day by day. The Government asked the Registrar to speed up the collections. There was no appreciable progress in this direction because of the economic depression. It is for this reason the Government are not encouraging the registration of new societies and the work of the department is confined to rectification and consolidation. I hope the economic conditions will improve soon and it will be possible for these societies to function properly. I am aware non-credit work has not progressed much in this province. If non-officials were to direct their attention in this direction the Government will give them all the necessary help. Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar complained that this Government are not exercising sufficient control over the societies by way of supervision, etc. It has been the policy of Government as far as supervision and inspection are concerned to leave them to the cooperators themselves reserving the general supervision to the department.

22nd March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

" The department is mainly concerned with the auditing of societies as it is the statutory duty imposed on the Registrar. The Registrar is however trying to help the formation of audit unions so that the process of handing over the movement entirely to the non-officials might be hastened. The audit by the department takes place once in six months and is found very unsatisfactory. By the formation of audit unions it is hoped to have concurrent audit. I realize that it will be hard on societies to pay not only for the supervising unions but also for the audit unions. My friend said that the minimum should be fixed at Rs. 50,000. If Rs. 20,000 is adopted as minimum 784 societies will be liable to pay fees. If the minimum of Rs. 50,000 is adopted 240 societies will be liable to pay fees and there will be no scope for audit unions in several districts, and also the burden of audit on Government would be increased. In view, however, of Mr. Ramalinga Chettiyar's remarks I shall speak to the Registrar and consider the suggestion of keeping the minimum at Rs. 50,000. Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar said that a central non-official agency should be brought into existence so that Government may, in all important matters, consult that body. I am prepared to help co-operators in the organization of central body on the right lines which will have representatives from all the districts and all interests.

" My Friend Mr. Simhachalam referred to the rectification scheme of the Guntur bank. If he will send me a copy of that scheme, I will speak to the Registrar and see that the affairs of the bank are managed, if possible without resorting to liquidation. Then he suggested that non-officials should be entrusted with liquidation work. I do not exactly know what he means by that. If he could give me more details I am prepared to consider that in consultation with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

" My Friend Mr. Badeti Venkataramayya suggested that Government should find money and place it at the disposal of central banks in order to help rural societies. This function should be carried out by central banks and not by Government. As a special case Government granted a loan of Rs. 10 lakhs because societies could not get money otherwise. Now I am told the banks are in a position to lend money. My Friend told us that there are only 37 land mortgage banks and only thirteen of them are functioning properly. It has been pointed out that the work done by these banks is practically nil. There have been difficulties in the way of working these banks. I may tell him in this connexion the central land mortgage bank is now in a position to lend money for ten years. Application from mufassal banks are not coming forward. I believe West Godavari was one of the exceptions which applied for funds and got it and if others followed suit they will also get loans.

" My Friend suggested that the Registration department should not charge co-operative societies any fees. In the early stages this department enjoyed the privilege of not paying anything towards the registration expenses. Now the volume of work has increased and the

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [22nd March 1932

Registration department is finding the work too much. This matter was considered by the Retrenchment Committee and they suggested that half-fee should be charged. The matter will be reconsidered at the end of the year when I may possibly consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend. My Friend wanted that Government should place funds at the
45 disposal of co-operative societies. I am afraid I cannot agree to it as
m the movement will then become only a department of Government and not a non-official agency. My Friend Mr. Ari Gowder on the other hand wants that the department should be deofficialized immediately. I am afraid it is not possible to do so now. My Friend Mr. Ramamurti made a number of suggestions for my consideration. So did my Friend Mr. Sahajananda. Most of which are in the province of my hon. Colleague who is in charge of the Labour department. Anyhow so far as the suggestions are within my province these suggestions will receive my careful consideration. My Friend Mr. Muniswami Pillai complained that no due weight has been given to the recommendations of the Board of Directors of building societies by the Registrar. I presume he refers to the society at Ootacamund. I am quite sure the Registrar will give due consideration, if the information furnished by the Directors is accurate and the applications are not defective. As for the Land Mortgage Bank intended for Badagas, it is going to be closed as Badagas are not taking advantage of it. If my Friend wants one for the benefit of depressed classes and Anglo-Indians, he should take steps for the formation of the bank and the Registrar would consider it sympathetically, if conditions will permit."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXIII—Co-operative Societies—Transferred, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,71,800, was put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XXIV—CINCHONA—RESERVED

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

> '*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 1,48,800 *under Cinchona—Reserved*'."

* Mr. H. B. Ari Gowder:—" Sir, I beg to move—

> '*that the allotment of Rs.* 1,48,800 *under Cinchona—Reserved, be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

" Sir, I beg to point out the possibility of extending the cinchona plantations. I do not suggest that more area should be brought under cultivation by this department. What I suggest is that encouragement may be given to private bodies or individuals to go in for cinchona plantation. The present supply cannot meet the demand. I dare say it is possible to make cinchona plantation a cottage industry as far as the sale of bark is concerned. It is not subsidy that I am suggesting, but the offering of technical advice and other inducements to the people to take up this plantation on a large scale, and that is the only way to overcome the present shortage of supply."

DEMAND XXIV—CINCHONA—RESERVED

* Rao Sahib V. I. MUNISWAMI PILLAI:—" Sir, I rise to support the motion made by my Friend, Mr. Ari Gowder. In so doing, I wish to discuss the policy of the Government as far as cinchona is concerned. Sir, the Royal Commission on Agriculture has laid particular stress in the matter of having extensive plantations. Before this recommendation came, Government themselves moved in this matter and prepared estimates to the tune of Rs. 13 lakhs to open about 2,500 acres of cinchona plantation. Fortunately or unfortunately, they have fixed up the Anamalais as the centre of their activities, and they thought they could make the best use of the land on the Anamalais. Now the time has come to take stock and see whether the plantation on the Anamalais has been a success. Sir, going through the various administration reports of the last four years, I should like to point out that in the year 1927–28 the Government admitted that there occurred a disease known as 'dieback', and the progress was stunted and they were not able to plant all the acreage in that particular area. In 1928–29, a similar state of affairs existed, and in the report of the year 1929–30 I find there was the visit of elephants and bisons and most of the plantations were destroyed thereby. Coming to the current year's report, it says 'it is not proposed to extend the plantations . . . until it is seen how far the results justify the extension.' To a casual observer, it is obvious that the Government are not in a position to make the plantation on the Anamalais a success.

" Going through the accounts, I find that the Government have to spend as much as Rs. 6,77,062-6-5 for planting 939 acres, working on an acreage cost of Rs. 674. An ordinary planter with a capital of Rs. 250 to 300 will be able to bring an acre of tea plantation to a success and also get a dividend year after year. Unfortunately, the Government were not very keen in the early stages to find out whether the plantations on the Anamalais would be a success. One point that came before this House during the early stages when this matter was taken up was that the planters were very keen on planting cinchona on the various hills in the Nilgiris and the Anamalais and demanded a guaranteed minimum rate for a unit. Unfortunately Government did not guarantee that rate and so most of the planters did not take much interest in it. Now, Sir, if the Government had accepted that suggestion, all this money that I have referred to would not have been spent. Moreover, I have taken only the plantation accounts which gives six lakhs and odd. Sir, if you take the buildings and other items of expenditure you will find that it goes up to more than seven lakhs and odd.

" Another point which I would like to impress upon the Government is that they must very carefully consider whether the plantations that they have opened are working successfully or whether it is advisable to encourage private agencies who are more interested in planting cinchona. The current report that we have before us says:

'Indeed that out-put has only been possible during the past three years by the fortunate purchase of a large consignment of high grade bark from a private estate (since converted to tea). A survey of the Madras plantation

[Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai] [22nd March 1932

discloses that unless immature blocks are harvested the provincial quinine *factory will not be able to produce more than 10,000 to 12,000 pounds of quinine* for about five years from 1933.'

" So, Sir, unless the Government harvests all immature plantations that are now available they will not be able to manufacture that amount of quinine that is required for the daily use of this Province. So, Sir, it is time that the Government appoint a small committee including a few expert representatives of the United Planters of Southern India who represent 99 per cent of the plantations in this Presidency for cinchona and other things who will be able to give us their views with regard to the extension of these plantations by Government, and a few members from this Council.

" Another point which is mentioned in this report is this:

'Deserving of more than passing notice is the decision of the Malaria Commission of the League of Nations to sponsor a new preparation of chinchona alkaloids to which the name "Totaquina" has been given . . . . Quinine as has often been mentioned is virtually a monopoly of Java where alone do optimum conditions exist for the growing of Ledgeriana bark while Totaquina can be made directly from Cinchona succirubra and Cinchona robusta, species much more hardy, easier to cultivate and wrich moreover grow excellently in South India.'

" It is also said:

'The League of Nations is actuated solely by the praiseworthy motive of *placing a cheap "cure" for malaria within the reach of the poor in tropical* countries. There is every reason to expect that the new drug can be put on the market at a price substantially below that of quinine and yet yield a suitable return.'

" Sir, the report for the year 1928–29 says:

'But it has been found that a normal Ledgerina on the Anamalais *compares very favourably in growth with a Succiruba tree contrary to what* would be expected.'

" Now, the Director of Agriculture (Cinchona) says that it could be very easily planted in Southern India. If the Government are really anxious that the poor humanity suffering from malaria should be protected, they must come to some definite proposal for cultivation of this species of this plant. Otherwise money spent already or to be spent in future years will be a waste.

" Now, from the accounts I find that the Government have to pay an interest of Rs. 11,427 on temporary accommodation and Rs. 65,850 on capital in connexion with the plantations on the Anamalais. I do not find from the accounts that a single pie has been paid on the loan the department have raised for the plantations on the Anamalais. So these things will have to be taken into consideration.

" Now, taking the matter of retrenchment that is going all round, I do not know whether the Retrenchment Committee have made any substantial recommendation as far as cinchona plantations are concerned. Now the office connected with these plantations is in Ootacamund, the plantations are in the Anamalais and the factory is in Naduvattam at a distance of about 20 miles from Ootacamund. I do not know how it would be possible for the Government to have the office in one place and the two other things in different places.

22nd March 1932] [Mr. V. I. Muniswami Pillai]

"We see from the Administration Report that the Dodabetta plantations very near Ootacamund are very valuable plantations. The report says:

'In the year 40,188 pounds of cinchona bark were taken from an area of about 18 acres.'

"That means for each acre 2,233 lb barks have been obtained in that particular year. If the Government are anxious about the extension of this plantation it must be somewhere near the Nilgiris so that they may have a better control. I know as a matter of fact that a few years ago the Government purchased from Kundas on the Nilgiris hundreds of thousands of pounds of bark from Whitbeek and Woodleigh and these estates were earning a very good return on the capital which was invested upon these estates. So, it is a matter for the Government to see whether the office can be kept where the factory is by way of retrenchment so that they may effect some saving.

"There is one other point which I would like to impress upon the hon. the Law Member, and that is this: whether the Government will consider the desirability of encouraging private agencies who are eager to take to cinchona plantations, because the report says:

'The locally purchased bark yielded 9,524 pounds and came mainly from Oosimalai cinchona plantation which has now been absorbed in a neighbouring tea estate. Included in the bark of the estate was one of the richest parcels ever worked at the factory, namely, 8:4 per cent of quinine sulphate.'

"Therefore it is plain that private agencies could do better in the matter of cinchona plantations than the Government.

"In these circumstances, I would urge upon the Government to carefully consider the appointment of a small committee of experts as well as a few non-official Members of this House to go thoroughly into the matter and come to a decision on this point and also to see that public money is not wasted any more by Government having to work these plantations themselves."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"I believe that the cinchona plantation is one of the useful undertakings of the Government. I see from the Report that Government have made a profit of Rs. 16,687-1-7 during the year 1930–31. I see there is hope that if things are done properly there is every chance of getting more profit. Just a while ago when we were dealing with cattle, some of us were complaining that Government have not done what they ought to do in order to root out some contagious diseases. May I, Sir, again repeat that Government have not done as much as they ought to do with regard to the saving of human lives suffering from malaria? No doubt Government have made some attempt to supply quinine in most of the malarial regions, but I am certain every one will agree with me that a number of people die in this country out of malarial fevers either for want of proper treatment by the doctors or in many cases on account of the poverty of the patients who are not in a position to buy quinine at the rate at which it is being supplied. As such, I hope that Government will see that quinine is supplied to people at the lowest rate possible or it would

[Mr. K. Koti Reddi] [22nd March 1932

be better still if they supply it free of charge. To-day Government are buying large quantities of quinine from the Government of India and possibly from outside this country also. When in this Presidency we have opportunities of cultivating quinine on a large scale, I do not see why our money should be spent on purchasing quinine from the Government of India and outside India. Of course the hon. the Law Member may say that they are not purchasing any quantity of quinine from outside India but I believe many chemists are importing a large amount of quinine from outside India and selling it to the consumers. When there is a chance of improving this industry in this Province and earning a large profit, I earnestly appeal to the hon. the Law Member to see whether there is not a necessity to appoint a small committee to go into the whole question and find out whether the production of quinine cannot be increased to such an extent as may be sufficient to combat the malaria which is so prevalent in this Presidency.

"With regard to the question whether private agencies should be allowed to have these cinchona plantations, I do not know whether they are at present prevented from having their own cinchona plantations in their lands. It has been suggested that the private owners should get a proper price to induce them to cultivate cinchona. If the Government themselves are able to make profit out of the present price, how is it not an inducement to private owners to cultivate cinchona? If the private owners themselves do not get profit at the present rate, I do not think it is quite safe for the Government to go and offer them higher prices to induce them to cultivate cinchona; for I believe there is a chance of the expenditure coming down in future so far as these plantations are concerned. At present Government pay large salaries which, we hope in course of time, will come down. Besides this, there is an item of Rs. 3,000 which is spent for auditing accounts. I believe this item may be reduced. If all these things are taken into account, there is a chance of making more profit or in other words there is a chance of reducing the price of quinine without any loss to the Government. I may suggest that Government may make this a sort of monopoly. The development of cinchona plantations may, in the interests of the public, be necessary, provided Government runs it on business lines.

"As to whether the plantation at the Anamalais or the Nilgiris is more profitable to the Government, it is a matter for the Government to investigate and find out in which place it would be less costly for them to plant cinchona and manufacture quinine."

* Mr. F. E. James:—"Mr. President, Sir, I should like to support my hon. Friends, Messrs. Ari Gowder and Muniswami Pillai, to this extent that I too think that Government should, before extending block planting in the Anamalais plantation, make very careful enquiries as to the advisability of continuing extension in that part of the country. As far as I have been able to gather, expert planting opinion has for some time been definitely sceptical as to the advisability of continuing to develop cinchona plantation in the Anamalais. There are various

22nd March 1932] [Mr. F. E. James]

reasons which make it sceptical—reasons of climate, reasons of direction and supervision and reasons of certain diseases which are prevalent in that part of the country. But I think that the Government would be well-advised, before putting in any more money into extension there, to get the opinion not simply of scientific experts but the opinion of working planters who know that part of the country, who know the difficulties of the soil and of the climate and who probably are in a position to give sound and wise opinion. On that ground I should support that part of my hon. Friend's motion which dealt with the necessity of Government making further enquiry before throwing more money after what they have already put down in that expensive establishment."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"Sir, I cannot claim so much knowledge of the plantations as my two hon. Friends who come from the Nilgiris. Anyhow I want to make one or two observations. The Government intended to treat this department as a commercial undertaking, but for an expenditure of Rs. 1,48,800 under this item they have realized only Rs. 16,687, which shows that the intention of the Government has not been realized. In most of the private estates a large number of trees are allowed to go to waste and they are not properly utilized. If the Government investigate the question whether there are already a sufficient number of trees or not for supplying the necessary bark for quinine manufacture, they will see that there is no necessity for wasting such a huge sum of one lakh and odd rupees and getting only a poor return of Rs. 16,000 odd. My suggestion is that even if it is not possible to transfer the business to private agency, it may be transferred to the Forest department, which portfolio also is held by the hon. the Law Member. The trees planted by the Government may be utilized by private agencies. The Government may lease cinchona trees as they lease other trees. In that case much public money can be saved. With these remarks, I support the motion."

* S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I have only very few words to say as the time at my disposal is very short. Those who know anything of the condition in the Ceded districts are aware that malaria is widely prevalent there and that the poor people suffer to a large extent on account of this disease."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"We are not dealing with malaria; we are only concerned with the production of quinine."

* S. M. K. BEYABANI SAHIB Bahadur:—"I refer to this fact for this reason. There is a great need felt for an adequate supply of quinine and unless Government take effective steps to increase the production of cinchona, the people—particularly the poor people—will not be able to get quinine easily. I therefore request the hon. the Law Member to see that private people also are encouraged to cultivate cinchona and thus increase the production of quinine. This will be of great benefit to the poor people who suffer from malaria."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Sir, my hon. Friends, Messrs. Ari Gowder, Beyabani Sahib and some others

[Sir. M. Krishnan Nayar] [22nd March 1932

urged that Government should encourage the private cultivation of cinchona and that it must, if possible, be made a cottage industry. I shall act on these suggestions if I can. The bark that is now necessary for feeding the factory at Naduvattam fully, cannot be produced in this Presidency as the factory is a big one. We find it difficult to find the bark necessary to keep the factory working to its full capacity. If private people—planters on a big scale or cottage workers on a small scale—cultivate the cinchona plant and sell the bark to the Government, the Government will be prepared to buy it. Private people cannot now manufacture the bark into quinine. There is only one factory in this Presidency and so far as I am aware there are only two factories in the whole of India, one here and the other in Bengal. My hon. Friend, Mr. Ari Gowder, further suggested that if it was not possible for the Government to help the cottage growers with a subsidy, they might at least help them with advice. As far as possible, Government will only be too glad to do that. My hon. Friends, Mr. Muniswami Pillai and Mr. James, referred to the cultivation of the cinchona plant in the Government plantations in the Anamalais. They are right in their remarks that the Government have not been so successful as they hoped they would be in the cultivation of the cinchona plant on the Anamalais. The original intention of the Government was to plant 2,300 acres in the Anamalai Hills with cinchona plant. But unfortunately, as my hon. Friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, said, a disease called 'dieback' appeared. I do not know why the experts call it by that name. The result was that vacant patches have been formed in the midst of these plantations. Although the intention of the Government was thus to plant 2,300 acres in the course of a few years, they have been able to plant only 934 acres till now. Also, as my hon. Friend stated, the cost has been heavy. It has not been decided to abandon these plantations. How to make the best use of these plantations is now under consideration. I may tell my friend, Mr. James, that I am prepared to accept his advice that Government must go slow and must take care before they proceed further with these plantations. My friend, Mr. Muniswami Pillai, stated that a committee should be constituted to go into this question. I beg to differ from him. I do not think that this is a matter on which a committee will be able to give useful advice to the Government. It is a technical matter—both the planting of cinchona and the manufacture of quinine. But as I stated before, all the suggestions made by hon. Members here will be considered and given effect to as far as possible. Hon. Members, Mr. Beyabani Sahib and Mr. Koti Reddi, stated that quinine must be supplied to the people free, and in any case at a low cost. That is what the Government are doing now. In the malarial regions the Public Health Department is supplying quinine free. In tracts which are not highly malarial, Government are supplying quinine at a very cheap rate. Quinine is sold in what are called treatment packets—small packets of 20 tablets of four grains each. Each packet costs As. 5. Sale by treatment packets has become popular. In 1929–30 Government got only Rs. 16,000 as profit. My hon. Friends must

22nd March 1932] [Sir M. Krishnan Nayar]

remember that it is not for obtaining a profit that the Government have undertaken this industry of planting cinchona and manufacturing quinine. No doubt the Government will be glad to have a profit, but they have a greater concern for the health of the people. Finally, I may say that all the observations made by my hon. Friends and the advice they have given will be carefully borne in mind and effect given to them as far as possible."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXIV—*Cinchona—Reserved, for a sum not exceeding* Rs. 1,48,800 was put and carried and the grant was made.

DEMAND XXV—INDUSTRIES—TRANSFERRED

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

> '*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 9,42,600 *under Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred.*'

* The hon. the President:—" Mr. Basheer Ahmed."

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar:—" I want to oppose the grant in toto."

* The hon. the President:—" Let the amendments be disposed of first."

Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar:—" I want to oppose the whole Demand. If my proposal is accepted, there will be no need for considering the amendments at all."

* The hon. the President:—" I think opposing the whole Demand will come in the end. That is the procedure we have been following with regard to cut motions."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Sir, I beg to move—

> '*that the allotment of Rs.* 9,42,600 *for Industries—Transferred, be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" We have been speaking time and again in this House on the 4
working, direction and policy of the Industries Department. Sir, I P
would like to refer only to one or two aspects of the working of the Industries Department and I shall not take much of the time of this House. Last year and even before that, I have been inviting the attention of the Government to the deplorable state of affairs that prevailed in certain sections of the Industries Department. The Government would not devote any attention to this state of things and it was discovered from the audit report that there was gross mismanagement in at least one section of the Industries Department; the Government

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [22nd March 1932

suffered a loss of about Rs. 32,000, Rs. 25,000 owing to some mismanagement or over-stocking, and Rs. 7,000 on account of another kind of mismanagement, call it by any other name. I do not know what the Government have done with regard to the audit report. No doubt the question came up before the Public Accounts Committee and the Committee said that they could wait for the final orders of the Government on one aspect of the problem. I hope that the hon. Minister will be able to tell us either this evening or the day after to-morrow, what the final orders of the Government are with regard to certain items that were pointed out in the auditor's report.

"Leaving that alone, there is no section which requires greater scrutiny and investigation than the section of the Industrial Schools. These schools are worked in a very peculiar manner. We have been urging on the Government for concentration of work in those useful sections of the Industries Department and for having continuity of policy. There has been no continuity of policy at all in the Industries Department for the last ten years and more. Within the course of the last eight or ten years, there have been frequent changes of Directors. No Director has laid down any definite policy which can be pursued by his successor and the Directors have been transferred once in three years, in two years or even within one year. It has not been conducive to the working of the Department in a satisfactory manner. There has been no concentration of work in any one particular section which proves to be more useful than the rest. I would confine myself to one of the sections for the time being, viz., the Industrial Schools. These schools are maintained by the Government at great cost, some of them. I do not think there is any great necessity for these Industrial Schools maintained by the Government. The School of Technology at Madras is more than sufficient for the whole Presidency, and the institutions in the mufassal which are maintained by the Government are nothing but Industrial Engineering Workshops which are competing with private enterprise. The Government policy should be that they should not compete with private enterprise in the name of Industrial Institutes. There are Industrial Schools in the Presidency which are aided by the Government. A sum of Rs. 2½ lakhs is being doled out to these so-called Industrial Schools. They are really miniature engineering workshops, and they compete with private enterprise. I shall tell you how they are given facilities for competing with private enterprise. These Industrial Schools are given by the Government, equipment grants, maintenance grants and building grants. When these grants are given to these Industrial Schools, they are able to sell their products at a far cheaper rate than the private concerns of the same type. It is not the object or at least it should not be the object of the Government to encourage such institutions by giving these various kind of grants to compete with private enterprise. These schools are really evangelistic ones maintained by a certain community, not by those communities that are living in this country. These schools are meant for evangelistic purposes. They are not maintained by sections of the communities

22nd March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

living in this country. Money is doled out to these institutions. There are in those institutions expert cabinet masters and expert mechanical engineers. They do not stand in need of any advice or instruction from the Government. What is the kind of guidance, what is the kind of advice that the Industries Department is able to afford to these schools? The Inspector of Industrial Schools is an unqualified man. He has got some old certificate; he does not hold any diploma; he is not a graduate of any college or Arts; nor has the man any training or experience of any of the departments of mechanical engineering or of any other technical branch of the work. He was originally recruited for the Educational Department for the purpose of being appointed as Inspector of Carpentry. The hon. Minister and the hon. Members of the House can easily imagine what kind of guidance, what kind of expert advice and what kind of help can be rendered by such an unqualified officer. He is paid a substantial salary of Rs. 1,200 per mensem. All these evangelistic institutions are mostly conducted by very efficient people. Where is the necessity for having a man on Rs. 1,200 for simply doling out a sum of Rs. 2½ lakhs from year to year. I do not see what useful purpose is served by having this Industrial Inspector of Schools.

"There is another point which I would like to emphasize in this connexion, and that is the teaching given in these so-called Industrial Institutions has practically no bearing on trade. They are able to manufacture these articles at a very cheap rate because they have no need to meet the maintenance or equipment or building charges; they are therefore able to sell their articles at a cheaper rate than private concerns. I would suggest that, instead of having an Inspector of Industrial Schools on Rs. 1,200 for the mere purpose of doling out the sum of Rs. 2½ lakhs, this post may be abolished if the Government are really anxious to effect retrenchment. After all, the meagre duties that he is now performing can easily be distributed among the Deputy Director and the various specialist officers of the department. At one time he was in charge of the Government School of Technology and it was some time ago transferred from his control. The present Principal of the School of Technology is a qualified man; he is an efficient man; he is very active and up to date in the discharge of his duties. Quite recently, about half the number of Industrial Schools were transferred to another specialist officer. Therefore there are only about 30 or 40 schools which are supposed to be managed by the Inspector of Industrial Schools. Even this work can be taken away from him, because most of these institutions are really Industrial Engineering centres. Some of these schools may be transferred to the Principal of the School of Technology. Some of them may be transferred to the Industrial Engineer. The work of doling out grants to these institutions can be done by the Director himself. The Director who was recently appointed is very energetic and very enthusiastic. If he is able to secure the co-operation and goodwill of the specialist officers of the department, I am sure he will be able to discharge the work more efficiently, with greater rapidity and greater skill. I do not

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [22nd March 1932

want to refer to the recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee relating to the Industries Department. I would say that there is great scope for retrenchment in the Industries Department, by the abolition of superfluous and unnecessary posts. I do not know what the hon. the Minister has to say on this aspect of this question. I hope he will make a thorough investigation and call for a report; he will also see that the superfluous posts are abolished.

"There is another superfluous institution to which I think it is my duty to invite the attention of the hon. the Minister and that is the Leather Trades Institute. This Leather Trades Institute was established sometime ago and its beginnings were very much appreciated and applauded. It has become now a big white elephant. It does not serve any useful purpose now. This institute is turning out some qualified men who are not wanted by the tanners. The tanners feel that their maistris themselves are well equipped for the purpose of tanning the country leather and of exporting them to foreign countries; the persons who are trained in this institute are not able to find any employment; naturally the attendance at the school fell down; no more students are attracted to the course. The Government can very well abolish this school and thus save the huge expenditure to which they are committed. The question came up before the Public Accounts Committee on more than one occasion and the recommendation of that Committee was that this institute should be abolished. There are vested interests there perhaps, and these interests still continue to be there. On account of the existence of these vested interests, the Government called for a mock conference of some tanners of the City and then they decided to make some researches on stains on leather. It is two years since the Government passed orders that research should be carried on in regard to stains on leather. I do not know what the result is and how far they have succeeded. I do not know what services they have rendered to the leather trade in the Presidency. I hope I will not be contradicted when I say that the two years' research has not resulted in anything useful to the leather traders; they stand where they were. My own humble opinion is that there is no necessity for the research on stains on leather. Whether there are stains or no stains, the leather traders are in a position to take care of themselves. If there is any necessity for such research, the traders themselves may pay for the costs of such researches. I would ask the Government to accept the recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee and to ask the traders themselves, who are to be benefited ultimately by these researches, to pay for the maintenance of this institute. This institute is costing the Government a very huge sum. I would urge that, if the traders are not willing to meet the cost of the maintenance of this institution and if the Government are not willing to transfer the work of research to the Technical Institute of Science at Bangalore, the Government should abolish the institution and save a good deal of money which may be made available for other more useful purposes and for the expansion of the Industries Department.

22nd March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

" One more point, Sir, and I am done. On the question of the separation of the Industrial Engineer's establishment and the pumping and boring sections, the recommendation of the Government was not at all satisfactory, and the majority of the Public Accounts Committee felt that the matter might be left there. But I differed from the Public Accounts Committee and I wish the hon. Minister and the Director to go into the question in detail, and if they are going to save further losses—I was told that even sometime ago the Industrial Engineering Workshop was working at a loss—they ought to put their heads together and see that there is complete and effective separation of the workshop. The same officer should have nothing to do with both the sections, viz., the pumping and boring sections and the Industrial Engineering Workshop. With these remarks, Sir, I move that the sum of Rs. 9,42,600 be reduced by Rs. 100." 4 P.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The motion is that the allotment of Rs. 9,42,600 under Demand XXV be reduced by Rs. 100."

* Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, I was just a little while ago thinking that I should be content with the reduction of Rs. 100 under this Demand, but now I will go the whole hog and ask the House for the rejection in entirety of this Demand. Last year, Sir, this time, in speaking on this Demand, the protagonist of the Justice Party, Sir A. P. Patro, of whom so much has been made a few days ago here, had some pregnant remarks to offer. He said:

'It is a very important point and that is the Swadeshi movement. In all earnestness I say that the encouragement of Swadeshi articles is one of the cardinal principles of the creed of the Justice Party. Some of the members of the party and some of our hon. Ministers have been very enthusiastic about Swadeshi and khaddar and have been very sincere in the matter of the encouragement of the Swadeshi articles; not only did they wear themselves and exhibit themselves in Swadeshi cloth, there were Swadeshi exhibitions supported by them. This is an opportunity to develop Indian nationalism. The Congress has laid emphasis on the encouragement of this movement and asserted it. The poor ryot, the poor labourer and the poor agriculturist will be able to supplement his income by taking to spinning during his leisure hours, during the period he is out of work. The ryot after his work in the field and labourer after his work in the factory, will be able to supplement his income by means of spinning and weaving which have been advocated by the Indian National Congress. Local bodies must know whether the Government are prepared to support such a policy. If the Government are prepared to support this policy and to encourage the Swadeshi movement, let them make an open declaration, so that local boards and others may not feel any doubt with regard to the policy of the Government in this matter. If they do not want to adopt this policy . . .'

" He was followed immediately afterwards by him who followed him this time also in another strain. Rao Bahadur A. T. Pannirselvam in the course of his remarks on that Demand, stated:

'The other criticism or suggestion which was put forward by Sir Patro was as regards the Swadeshi policy of the Ministry. It is not merely a question for the present Ministry, Sir. I believe there is hardly one Member in this House—including the European section—who does not feel the force of the Swadeshi policy. There is not one Member here, I think, who will not believe in encouraging native industries. . .'

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [22nd March 1932

"Having quoted so fully from the speeches made last year this time by these two protagonists of the Justice Party, let us now turn to see what the Ministers of the Justice Party, with the backing of these same protagonists are now doing in aid of the Swadeshi and Khaddar industries at least during these three months. During these three months, Sir, we have had an extraordinary series of incidents enacted under official auspices, and under the force of lathis and canes. What has been enacted is, if possible, to beat Swadeshi to death and to burn khaddar out of recognition. Now, that is what has been going on these three months; and in support of such a policy of beating Swadeshi or 'Buy Indian' out of existence and burning khaddar out of recognition, they have had the same eminent gentlemen, Messrs. Patro and Pannirselvam waxing eloquent on the Police Demand. I suppose you cannot have one thing to say when you are on the Police Demand and quite a conflicting thing to say when you are on the Industries Demand. The extraordinary feature of the policy of the present Government of Madras is that they do not pause to consider the reaction of their Police policy upon their Industries policy. What is that reaction? We have had a series of incidents. Early this year, we had the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition in Madras held under the auspices of the Mahajana Sabha handled in a manner hardly becoming of any Government interested in Swadeshi enterprise. We had again the Sitanagaram Ashram incident in which although the interpellator suggested the carrying away of as many as forty cart-loads of khaddar by the Police, an admission was forthcoming at least to the extent of one cart-load. Again, Sir, with reference to the Khadi Vastralayam at Coimbatore and in Vizagapatam, with reference to the wearing of khaddar in general, what have been the incidents enacted under Police pressure? The disclosures in Dr. Subrahmanyam's case bring out that two persons who were wearing khaddar were asked to get rid of that khaddar. A policeman brought kerosene oil and that kerosene oil was poured upon these khaddar cloths and a bonfire was made of them in the open bazaar in Rajahmundry, and the Police officer would not stop at that. He insisted that foreign cloth should be purchased, and worn by these people at their own cost, and when some other cloth than khaddar was purchased, he was prompt in raising his objection 'Oh ! this is Indian mill cloth; this won't do; you must bring Manchester mull'; and Manchester mull was forced upon these people, and they had to purchase and wear that. Take again the incidents at Narasapur. The Government purported to bless by their Communique, the 'Buy Indian movement' but what has the Policeman done? The fact is that my hon. Friend the Home Member from his place here, day in and day out reads to us the printed instructions of Government to officialdom in the districts; but how are these instructions viewed and given effect to by the district officials? The fact is that any one district official seems to agree with almost every other district official in his own mode of understanding these printed instructions. So numerous have been the instances in which the district officials and under their inspiration and

22nd March 1932] [Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar]

personal *daily orders*, the Police, have acted in utter disregard of these instructions."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Mr. President, I am afraid these are criticisms which must reasonably be addressed to my Friend, the hon. the Home Member, who is in charge of the Police portfolio."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I think the hon. Member is pointing out that the Government are adopting a policy of destruction rather than production of Swadeshi goods. The hon. Member may now proceed."

Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR:—"I am glad, Sir, that I have been understood by him whose understanding matters most here; and I am by no means disturbed by the fact that such an interested individual in the matter as the Industries Minister chose to understand me differently. I think, Sir, we are on the question of the policy on industries adopted by the present Ministry. A great boast has been made all these years since the Mont-Ford Reforms were introduced that in Madras, whatever the theory, the practice has been that there has been a unitary Government. I ask these Ministers what they have been doing these three months to co-ordinate the Police policy of the Madras Government with its policy in the Industries Department, so that the Police policy might operate to the advantage of the Government Industries policy? If the Police policy has been allowed by the Ministry to operate in such a destructive vandalistic fashion so far as the Swadeshi policy of the Government is concerned, I charge the Ministers with being parties to the stifling of the Swadeshi industries at the point of the bayonet. I say, Sir, that if these Ministers had at all any regard for their conscience, any regard for the interests of Swadeshi, then they should have told the Government of Madras at the time when Ordinances were unnecessarily introduced at the beginning of this year: 'We shall not be parties to the introduction of these Ordinances; there is no Civil Disobedience here yet, and if you are going to create Civil Disobedience merely by the introduction of the Ordinances and by making picketing which is lawful and legitimate unlawful, then you are only making an excuse by calling that Civil Disobedience which is not already Civil Disobedience in order ultimately and substantially to stifle legitimate Swadeshi. That is what it comes to, and that is what you are at, you Members of the Reserved Half. We ministers, shall not be parties to such a destructive, vandalistic policy of this Government. We therefore walk out.' That is what they should have said. If they had said that or if even now after the experience of these three months, the Ministers will venture to say that, I say, on behalf of the Opposition, that none from our ranks will care to step into their places. I ask them to remember that not long ago on an issue which was far less vital than this issue of Swadeshi, my hon. Friends Diwan Bahadur Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and Mr A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar resigned their high offices. And those weather-cocks who changed their minds

[Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar] [22nd March 1932

at that time and stepped into their places—how has the electorate dealt with them? We do not find them here to-day. I ask that lesson to be remembered by the hon. Ministers. My hon. Friend the Chief Minister the other day waxed eloquent and said that they were no less patriots than others in the country. I ask that patriotism to be put to the test by their votes on this motion. Will they give their partymen freedom to vote upon this Industries Demand in a manner consistent with their patriotic desire to foster Swadeshi? If they will give that freedom, then I say *it must come to this: that this Industries Demand should be* knocked on the head and this Ministry must walk out, really not because another party is willing to get into their places, but because the policy of the Government of the day is so assiduously against such a vital interest as the Swadeshi industry. And if on such an issue, they with the help of our votes as well as the votes of their followers will really wage war against the Reserved Half and walk out, it will be a glorious exhibition of their patriotism. Otherwise, Sir, I venture to say it will not be patriotism; it will be pseudo-patriotism; and I say, in the words of the Chief Minister himself, they will not fail to be judged at the polls for their patriotism of to-day." (Applause.)

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and meet again to-morrow morning at 11 o'clock."

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Wednesday, the 23rd March 1932

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur P.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The.
Luker, Mr. F. G.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Kallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Singam Ayyangar, Mr. K.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran.
Strathie, I.C.S., Mr. D. N.
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasa Ayyangar, Mr. T. C.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Subbarayan, Dr. P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.
Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Education

Representation of aided school managers on Educational Councils.

* 1082 *Q.*—Mr. P. MADHUSOODHANAN THANGAL: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any representation has been received from the managers of aided schools in Malabar asking for seats in the Educational Council; and

(*b*) whether aided school managers have not been allotted seats in the Educational Councils of other districts?

A.—(*a*) Yes.
(*b*) Yes; in Madras.

Mr. P. MADHUSOODHANAN THANGAL:—" May I know whether the hon. Minister will be pleased to give representation to managers of aided schools in Malabar in view of the fact that a large share of the educational activities is due to private management? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The question of giving representation to teacher-managers in district educational councils is under the consideration of Government."

Mr. P. MADHUSOODHANAN THANGAL:—" May I know whether the Government are considering the necessity of amending the Educational Council Rules as has been done in the case of the Local Boards Act? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I have not yet examined the question, but if amendments are necessary that will also be undertaken."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" With reference to clause (*b*) the answer is ' Yes; in Madras '. May I know whether it is only in Madras or in any other district also? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" In the City of Madras."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know as to whether there is no representation for teacher-managers in any other district? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" My hon. Friend's question refers only to managers who are not teachers."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" The hon. Minister replied to a previous question that the question of giving representation to managers of aid schools on district educational councils has been under consideration. May I ask, Sir, if so, how long it has been under consideration and how long it will take for him to arrive at a conclusion? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I do not think it has been under consideration for any unconscionable length of time, but we shall deal with it as quickly as possible."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know how many seats are allotted in the Madras District Educational Council for the representatives of aided school managers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I cannot say."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether he has received any representation from the aided school managers association, Madras, requesting Government to increase their representation in the Council?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" I cannot say."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask, Sir, whether there is any proposal to increase the representation of teacher-managers in the district educational councils?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" There is no representation for managers who are not teachers at present, except in the City of Madras."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" My question was about teacher-managers?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" That does not arise. I want notice."

Excise

Closure of toddy and arrack shops in Salem district.

* 1083 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: *Will the hon. the* Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any proposals for further closure of toddy and arrack shops in Salem district during the coming year; and

(*b*) if so, what shops are to be closed and from which date?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*). The answer is in the negative.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Sir, the policy of the Government is progressive in the matter of closure of toddy shops. May I know why that policy was not adopted in this district for the coming year?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" The experiments that had been tried have not proved sufficiently successful to warrant any further extension."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I understand that on account of the work of the rural reconstruction agencies, such areas as are recommended by the Commissioner of Excise can be tried? May I know whether the Government accepted his proposals?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Oh yes. That was last year."

Co-operation

Liquidation of the Edyaru Chathur Co-operative Society.

* 1084 *Q.*—Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar: Will the hon. the *Minister for Public Works be pleased to state*—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Vellore, has been appointed as the Liquidator of the Edyaru Chathur Co-operative Society;

(*b*) whether the Liquidator sent notices to the members of the Society to show cause why contribution should not be collected from them;

(*c*) whether he is threatening to pass decree against one of them only for all the amounts due;

(*d*) whether the liquidator objected to the member being represented by a duly authorized legal practitioner (by vakalat) in the *proceedings before him;*

(*e*) whether there is any, and if so, what order of Government preventing a legal practitioner from appearing before a liquidator; and

(*f*) *whether legal practitioners were not appearing previously be*fore 'liquidators' and Deputy Registrars of Co-operative Societies?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) *&* (*f*). The Government have no information. A report will be called for.

(*e*) No.

Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar:—"In the district of North Arcot a number of societies are being threatened with liquidation. In *view of the sad plight of the ryots to find money,* may I *request the* hon. Minister to issue directions to the Deputy Registrar to allow short extensions of time for repayment?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"It is a question of policy and I cannot issue any direction to any particular Deputy Registrar. The suggestion of my hon. Friend will, however, be taken into consideration."

Medical Administration

Qualifications of the Resident Medical Officer, Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras.

* 1085 *Q.*—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any post in the Medical department is reserved for officers of the cadre of I.M.D. and, if so, what those posts are;

(*b*) whether the office of the Resident Medical Officer of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, is reserved for officers of the cadre of I.M.D.;

(c) whether it is a fact that an I.M.D. officer was recently appointed to the office of the Resident Medical Officer, Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras, and, if so, whether he possesses any special qualifications for the post and whether he had any training in Ophthalmology before he was appointed to the said office;

(d) what the functions of the Resident Medical Officer, Ophthalmic Hospital, are;

(e) whether training in Ophthalmology is a necessary qualification for the appointment to the office of the Resident Medical Officer of the Government Ophthalmic Hospital; and

(f) whether there are not officers available who have special qualification in Ophthalmology and if so, whether their claims were considered in connexion with the said appointment?

A.—(a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Yes. He does not possess any special qualification or training in Ophthalmology.

(d) The functions of the Resident Medical Officer are generally to help in the administration. It has been found that I.M.D. officers are specially suitable for the administrative work of Resident Medical Officers.

(e) It is desirable to have an officer trained in Ophthalmology if he is also capable of discharging the administrative duties of Resident Medical Officer satisfactorily.

(f) Yes. Requirements of the administration of the hospital were taken into account in appointing the officer who now holds the post.

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—"In answer to clause (d) it is stated that I.M.D. officers are specially suitable for the administrative work of Resident Medical Officers. May I know, Sir, whether I.M.D. officers undergo any special training in administrative work?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"As they have also had administrative experience, they are quite suited for the purpose."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—"May I know, Sir, whether it was not possible to get a gentleman with both administrative qualifications and knowledge of ophthalmology?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"The suggestion of my hon. Friend will be considered when the occasion arises."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—"With reference to the answer to clause (d) may I know whether any attempt has been made to get an officer trained in this particular science and also trained in administrative branch?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu :—"When a vacancy next arises, we shall consider the question of appointing a gentleman trained in Ophthalmology and having experience on the administrative side."

[23rd March 1932

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know, Sir, what is the nature of the administrative training that an I.M.D. officer receives? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" They have to deal with the establishment of the office, see that everything is kept clean and such other duties."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know whether there is no civil surgeon in the whole of the Madras Presidency who combines both these qualifications, namely, administrative capacity and qualification in ophthalmology? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" It is not a question of there being no other person available, but the present gentleman has got the capacity to run the institution efficiently."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I take it that because Government could not find any civil surgeon with these qualifications that they were compelled to go in for an I.M.D. officer? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" That does not follow."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Is it not the object of Government that the Resident Medical Officer should be a man ready to take the place of the Ophthalmic Surgeon whenever that officer goes on leave and carry out his duties? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" There are other assistants in the hospital who can take up his work and it is not necessary that the Resident Medical Officer should do that work during the absence on leave of the particular officer."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister considers that people in the civil employ have not got as much administrative experience as people in the I.M.D. cadre? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I never said that. I merely said that I.M.D. people have got administrative ability which qualifies them to be appointed as Resident Medical Officers."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether I.M.D. officers are preferred to civil officers? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Government have to employ some military assistant surgeons and this gentleman is one of those who have been employed in this particular office."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know whether it is not a fact that the Resident Medical Officer in this hospital is also expected during night time to attend to emergent cases concerning diseases of the eye, in the absence of the Superintendent or other officers? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" If he is qualified he will attend to such cases; otherwise other assistants will do the work."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Is it not a fact that there are too many of these I.M.D. officers? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The question was considered in 1929 and in consultation with the Government of India their number was reduced to 18, which, I think, is the number we are having at present. My hon. Friend pointed out the other day that they are more than 18 and I may state that attempts are being made to reduce that figure."

Administration of Justice

Appointment of a non-civilian as the Registrar of the High Court.

* 1086 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Registrar of the High Court is proceeding on leave, and if so, when and for what period;

(*b*) whether the Registrar of the High Court is due to retire, and if so, when;

(*c*) whether the Government propose to appoint a non-civilian for the post when the next vacancy arises; and

(*d*) if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) Yes; for five months and eighteen days from the 25th July 1932.

(*b*) The Registrar attains the age of 55 years, on the 12th February 1933.

(*c*) & (*d*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to clause 8 of the Letters Patent of the High Court of Judicature, Madras, under which the power of appointment to the post of Registrar in the High Court is vested in the Chief Justice.

Mr. M. A. MANIKKAVELU NAYAKAR:—" Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to convey to the hon. the Chief Justice of the High Court that there is a feeling in this House that a non-civilian should be appointed for the post of Registrar of the High Court? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The present occupant of the office is a non-civilian."

Periodic inspection of mufassal courts by the High Court.

* 1087 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any periodic inspection of the local courts in the Presidency town and the mufassal is done by the High Court;

(*b*) if so, when the last inspection was made and what courts were inspected, with what results in each case; and

(*c*) if not, why, and when the next inspection is due and whether any programme of such inspection is prepared by the High Court from time to time?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) So far as information is available with Government no periodic inspection of courts has been conducted by the Judges of the High Court. Owing to arrears of work in the High Court, it was not possible for such inspection being made and there appears to be no possibility of its being undertaken for the present.

Prisons and Prisoners

Classification of certain civil disobedience prisoners of South Kanara district.

* 1088 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) in what class have the following persons convicted for Civil Disobedience in 1932 in South Kanara been placed:—

Messrs.

(i) Karnad Sadasiva Rao, Mangalore.

(ii) Pangal Manjunatha Nayak, Udipi.

(iii) Kunble Ramanatha Rao, Udipi.

(iv) Annappa Karanth, Coondapoor.

(*b*) in which class had the said persons been placed when they were convicted for civil disobedience in 1930-31;

(*c*) if there is any change, what is the change due to;

(*d*) what is the status in life of the said persons; and

(*e*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*).

	Classification in 1932.	Classification in 1930-31.
(i) Karnad Sadasiva Rao, Mangalore.	B Class ..	A Class.
(ii) Pangal Manjunatha Nayak, Udipi.	The Government have no information.	A Class.
(iii) Kunble Ramanatha Rao, Udipi.		B Class.
(iv) Annappa Karanth, Coondapoor.		B Class.

(*c*) *to* (*e*) The District Magistrate, South Kanara, reported that K. Sadasiva Rao, by his mode of living and status in life as a Law graduate, was eligible only for B Class and the Government accepted his recommendation. As regards the other three persons a report will be called for from the District Magistrate.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know, Sir, as to whether there is any change in the policy of the Government with regard to classification of prisoners?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, Sir."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know as to whether Karnad Sadasiva Rao who was placed in A class last year has lowered in his status?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It depends upon his present circumstances."

23rd March 1932]

Classification of Messrs. Sivaramakrishna Ayyar and Narayana Ayyar, Advocates of Madura, now in prison.

* 1089 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the class was in which Messrs. Sivaramakrishna Ayyar and N. Narayana Ayyar, Advocates of Madura, were originally put and what class are they now in;

(*b*) why this transfer was made;

(*c*) what the status and position of these two political prisoners is; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to transfer them to the higher class?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information regarding N. Narayana Ayyar. A report has been called for from the District Magistrate.

Sivaramakrishna Ayyar was placed provisionally in 'B' class by the convicting magistrate who transferred him to 'C' class subsequently.

(*b*) & (*c*) The transfer was made as it was reported that the convict, though an advocate, had no properties and that his mode of living was not of a high standard.

(*d*) Sivaramakrishna Ayyar has since been placed in 'B' class by Government.

Classification of Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar, Advocate, Dindigul, as 'C' class prisoner.

* 1090 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mr. R. Subrahmanya Ayyar, advocate of Dindigul, is undergoing imprisonment as 'C' class prisoner;

(*b*) what the offence is for which he is convicted and what his status and position is; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to transfer him to a higher class?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) R. Subrahmanya Ayyar was placed in 'C' class by the convicting magistrate. The Government have since reclassified him as 'B' class prisoner.

(*b*) He was convicted for offences under section 17 (2) of Act XIV of 1908 and section 4 of Ordinance V of 1932. He is a B.A., B.L., and was practising at Dindigul.

Mr. Yakub Hasan:—"As we have seen that there have been several cases in which the Magistrates have placed the prisoners in a lower class and then Government have placed them in a higher class, will Government be pleased to draw the attention of the Magistrates to use their discretion better than they have done before and that such persons as advocates need not be put in "C" class should not require special instruction."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"My hon. Friend will see that the present question is confined to one particular individual, Mr. Subrahmanya Ayyar. However, I may say for the information of my hon. Friend that the Magistrates are using their discretion to the best of their ability. No doubt Government sometimes do not agree with them but in all cases they do their duty according to their light."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know whether Government have given instructions to the Magistrates to place these prisoners in the lowest class?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"No, Sir, I emphatically deny the insinuation."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"It is no insinuation, but it is a statement, Sir."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"Thanks."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know, Sir, whether Government does not consider the status of an advocate, who after hard study and great expense qualifies himself for a university degree, is sufficient status entitling him to be placed in a higher class?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"It does not depend upon the educational qualification of the person concerned, but it depends only upon the standard of living and the nature of the offence."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to put as many of these prisoners as possible in 'C' class, so that the number of apologies may be increased?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"I deny the suggestion."

Classification of Messrs. Kumaraswami and Raghavachari as 'C' class prisoners.

* 1091 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Messrs. S. M. Kumaraswami and P. K. Raghavachari, Sourashtra merchants and now political prisoners, are put in 'C' class; if so, why;

(*b*) whether the Government have ascertained or will ascertain the status and position of the said political prisoners;

(*c*) whether the Government propose to transfer them to a higher class;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that their wives also are undergoing imprisonment and, if so, in what class are they put; and

(*e*) what action do the Government propose to take to transfer them to the higher class?

23rd March 1932]

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) *&* (*e*) The convicting Magistrate classified them as 'C' class prisoners. The Government after ascertaining their status and position, have placed them in 'B' class.

(*d*) S. M. K. Kamalam, wife of S. M. Kumaraswami, was placed in 'B' class by the convicting Magistrate. No information is available regarding the conviction of Raghavachari's wife.

Classification of Srimati Lakshmi Ammal as C class prisoner.

* 1092 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Lakshmi Ammal, wife of Dr. Sankara Ayyar is undergoing imprisonment as a 'C' class prisoner; if so, why;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that during 1930-31 she was put in 'A' class; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to transfer her to 'A' class?

A.—(*a*) *&* (*c*) The convicting Magistrate placed her in 'C' class. The Government have since placed her in 'A' class.

(*b*) Yes.

Diet to political prisoners.

* 1093 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that some of the Magistrates order mixed diet to political prisoners;

(*b*) what the reasons are for giving mixed diet and what its com ponents are;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that mixed diet seriously upsets the health of political prisoners not used to it; and

(*d*) what action the Government propose to take to prevent the awarding of mixed diet to political prisoners?

A.—(*a*) *&* (*b*) The hon. Member is referred to rule 347-B.I. (3) on page 122 of the Madras Jail Manual.

(*c*) The question does not arise as Magistrates make personal enquiries as to the diet to which a prisoner is accustomed before deciding on the class of diet to be allowed to him.

(*d*) The Government propose to take no action, the Court's decision being final.

Denial of fruits to B. Class prisoners.

* 1094 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that B class prisoners are not allowed to have fruits in jail even at their own cost ;

(*b*) whether it is also a fact that B class prisoners are not given oil for bathing purposes even at their own cost ;

(*c*) what action do the Government propose to take to redress these grievances?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) & (*c*) A report has been called for.

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I know what objection there can be to these political prisoners who are put in ' B ' class having the benefit of fruit diet and of oil bath at their own cost? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" With reference to oil, as my hon. Friend will find in the printed answer, I have called for a report. With reference to fruits, if my hon. Friend has read the Jail Rules, he will find therefrom that ' B ' class prisoners are entitled only to the food that is provided for in the jail."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" In view of the large number of political prisoners included in the ' B ' class, may I know whether Government will be pleased to issue necessary instructions or to make the necessary modifications in the Jail Manual to allow such prisoners to have fruit diet at their own cost? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No, Sir, the rules are framed by the Government of India and the local Government have no power to change them."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" May I ask Government whether they will be pleased to address the Government of India in regard to this matter? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" I want to know whether B class prisoners should not be allowed fruit under the Jail Rules? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" Nothing is stated in the Jail Rules with reference to fruit."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Can I take it that fruit diet is allowed to B class prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No fruit diet is prescribed in the Jail Rules."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" Are Government going to revise the rations, food, etc., given to prisoners in the light of the report of Col. McCarrison? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" It is under the consideration of Government."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" Has not Col. McCarrison recommended fruits for prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar :—" I do not think he has referred to fruits at all in his report. In fact it is not the recommendation of McCarrison, but it is the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Prisons and he consulted Col. McCarrison with reference to certain points."

23rd March 1932]

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" What about butter-milk for prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" As I said, the recommendation of the Inspector-General of Prisons is under the consideration of Government."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the dietetic value 11-1
of fruits, may I ask the hon. Member whether he will not be prepared a.m.
to address the Government of India to amend the Jail Rules? "

The hon. *Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar*:—" No, Sir, because the rules have been drafted after a great deal of discussion and deliberation and in consultation with the Provincial Governments. I do not think there is any use in this Government addressing the Government of India to amend the rules."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether it is on the question of fruits the Government do not think advisable to address the Government of India or to the classification? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Food is prescribed under the rules for A and B class prisoners."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" I understood the hon. Member to say that fruit is being prescribed to 'B' class prisoners; but he said previously that it was not being prescribed for these. May I know which of these is correct? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" I said even lastly *that food was prescribed. The hon. Member perhaps mistook* it for *fruit*."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Beg your *pardon, Sir*."

Government Press

Dismissal of Paramasivan, machine-minder, Government Press.

*1095 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Paramasivan, a machine-minder of 12 years permanent service in the Government Press, was dismissed from service with effect from 25th June 1931 with no charge being framed and no explanation called for and if so, why ;

(*b*) whether it is also a fact that a copy of the dismissal order was furnished to him on 15th July 1931 only after two reminders from him and if so, why ;

(*c*) whether it is also a fact that his appeal to Government against the order of dismissal was rejected and if so, why ;

(*d*) whether the attention of the heads of departments was invited in the Government Memorandum No. 7881-1, Public, dated 20th October 1924 and G.O. No. 731, Public, dated 4th August 1926, to the statutory

nature of the rule framed by the Secretary of State under section 96-B (2) of the Government of India Act, 1919, and whether they were requested to see that officers empowered to award the punishments followed the prescribed procedure strictly ;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that as the procedure was not strictly followed in certain cases, the Government have ordered for fresh enquiries to be made in accordance with the rules, if so, in how many cases ; and

(*f*) whether there is any rule that in cases in which the procedure is not followed strictly, the Government must either allow the appeal or order fresh enquiry ?

A.—(*a*) R. Paramasivam, a machine-minder in the Government Press, was dismissed from service with effect from 25th June 1931 for persistent irregular attendance and bad work in spite of repeated warnings, after a charge had been brought against him, his explanation obtained and an enquiry held in his presence by the Superintendent, Government Press.

(*b*) The machine-minder was informed by the Superintendent, Government Press, of the order on 24th June 1931 and his signature was obtained in the Office Order book. A copy of the dismissal order was applied for on 29th June 1931 and this was furnished by the Superintendent, Government Press, on 15th July 1931.

(*c*) Yes. The Madras Services Commission which was consulted and furnished with the original records of the case did not find any irregularity of procedure prejudicially affecting the appellant and stated that the order of the Superintendent, Government Press, was well justified by the appellant's bad record. The Commission advised the rejection of the appeal and the Government agreed with its recommendation.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes. The Government do not consider that the labour involved in collecting the figures asked for would be justified.

(*f*) No.

Law and Order—General

Withdrawal of the complaint against Dr. Paton.

* 1096 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have ordered the withdrawal of the complaint against Dr. Paton; and

(*b*) if so, what the reasons are for which the case has been ordered to be withdrawn; and

(ii) to lay on the table all the papers connected with the

23rd March 1932]

A.—(i) (*a*) The complaint was withdrawn under the orders of the Commissioner of Police with the knowledge of the Government.

(*b*) A copy* of the Commissioner's order directing withdrawal of the case is annexed.

(ii) It is not desirable to lay the papers on the table as they contain confidential information.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member, if the view of the Commissioner of Police and the Madras Government was that Dr. Paton was really guilty whereas the view of the Secretary of State for India as appeared in the letter of apology sent to Dr. Paton's brother-in-law is that it was really by a mistake that he was arrested and charged? Am I to take it, Sir, whether the Madras Government have given up their view since?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"As there was some misunderstanding on the part of the Police, the Commissioner of Police, with the approval of the Government, withdrew the case."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I ask the hon. Home Member whether the Commissioner of Police and the Madras Government do still hold that Dr. Paton was arrested for picketing?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I have already made a statement the other day. The general policy of the Government in regard to all such cases is to withdraw from prosecution when they are satisfied that the person concerned is not likely to take any further part in Civil Disobedience unless the person has taken an active or prominent part in the movement."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member if the Government still hold that Dr. Paton was arrested for picketing?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"As regards this, Sir, the facts of the case are that Dr. Paton visited the area where picketing was going on and according to his own statement, after having been warned by the Police to leave the area, did so for a short distance and immediately returned to it. His indiscreet conduct not unnaturally led the Police to believe that he was personally taking part in picketing or assisting picketers."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member if the Government still consider that Dr. Paton was a member of an unlawful assembly and therefore he was arrested?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I have just stated the facts of the case and have explained the position of the Government."

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*Printed as Appendix I on page 824 infra.

Mr. YAKUB HSAN:—" May I ask the hon. Gentleman the reasons or grounds which led the Commissioner of Police to believe that Dr. Paton will take no further part in the Civil Disobedience Movement? Did he give any assurance in his conversation with the Commissioner of Police? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" Dr. Paton left Madras for Tirupattur and the Commissioner of Police had also received a report from the Collector of North Arcot to the effect that Dr. Paton had no intention of picketing."

Withdrawal of prosecution against offenders like Dr. Paton.

* 1097 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government or the Police have withdrawn any and what prosecutions launched against offenders like Dr. Paton for offences like those charged against him; if so, whether the Government will lay on the table a list of such cases with the reasons for withdrawal in each case;

(*b*) whether the Rt. Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India called for an explanation or report from the Government of the facts relating to the action of the Police in beating and ill-treating Dr. Paton and why the prosecution was withdrawn, and whether the Government replied to the Secretary of State;

(*c*) whether the Government are prepared to lay copies of the cablegrams or correspondence on the table of the House;

(*d*) whether the prosecution against Dr. Paton was launched after due consideration by the Government;

(*e*) whether Dr. Paton filed his written statement denying the charge made against him and challenging the truth of the story and whether the withdrawal of the case before the Magistrate was made subsequently;

(*f*) whether Dr. Paton and Dr. Hogg did not seek to interview the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras before Dr. Paton was arrested and before any case was launched against him; and

(*g*) whether the Chief Secretary granted the interview to Dr. Paton or Dr. Hogg and discussed the occurrence with them?

A.—(*a*) There have been 31 cases in which prosecutions connected with Civil Disobedience have been withdrawn. The Government have no information as to the details of these cases, but will enquire.

(*b*) There has been correspondence between this Government, the Secretary of State and the Government of India on the subject of Dr. Paton's case.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The prosecution was instituted by the Commissioner without reference to the Government.

23rd March 1932]

(e) The Commissioner's order directing the withdrawal of the case was passed on 26th January 1932. The Government understand that Dr. Paton's statement was filed in the High Court on 28th January 1932.

(f) & (g) Dr. Paton and Dr. Hogg called at the Secretariat and saw the Chief Secretary on 16th January 1932. As the Chief Secretary learnt that a charge was to be laid against Dr. Paton, he declined to discuss the occurrence.

Lathi charge on a Congress Procession at Udipi on 6th January 1932.

* 1098 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there was a lathi charge on a Congress procession on 6th January 1932 in Udipi;

(b) what the events were that led up to the same; and

(c) whether an order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code prohibiting the procession was promulgated in Udipi either at the time of the procession or before it; if not, why they were asked to disperse and ordered to be charged?

A.—(a) & (b) There was no lathi charge in Udipi on the 6th January 1932. On January 5th a procession was taken through the streets by a number of Congress volunteers one of whom carried a flag. The processionists were singing disloyal songs and shouting revolutionary slogans. The Joint Magistrate with a party of the police stopped the procession, declared it an unlawful assembly and ordered it to disperse. The order was disobeyed and the processionists were therefore dispersed by force.

(c) An order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, was not in force at the time of the dispersal of the procession. The procession was dispersed under the provisions of Chapter IX of the Criminal Procedure Code.

Alleged use of abusive language by the Circle Inspector of Police, Mangalore.

* 1099 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Circle Inspector of Police, Mangalore, was using all sorts of vulgar, abusive epithets in public when he was asking the policemen to beat the volunteers who picketed Messrs. Kanji & Bros., cloth shop in Mangalore, on 3rd February 1932; and

(b) whether the Government approve of such conduct on the part of their officers; if not, what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Sir, with reference to clause (*a*), may I ask the hon. the Home Member whether any enquiry was held by the Collector as to whether the Inspector of Police used abusive language or not? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—
" He made an enquiry and has said ' No '."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I know, Sir, if any persons were examined by the Collector and what exactly is it that was done by him in this direction? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—
" He has made the enquiry and said that the Inspector of Police did not indulge in any abusive language."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" Am I to understand that it is the report of the Police? "

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Then, Sir, may I ask the hon. Gentleman if it is only a statement of the Police? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—
" He made necessary enquiries."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Will the hon. the Home Member consider the advisability of issuing instructions to officers holding the enquiry as to the nature of the enquiry that has to be made—if it is from Police officers or from eye-witnesses who are on the scene? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—
" My hon. Friend who has held an important administrative post under the Government knows that these are left to the discretion of the District Magistrates."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" The point, Sir, is this: *The District Magistrate being the administrative officer* himself, and human nature being what it is, unless specific instructions are given to him in regard to the proper holding of an enquiry, there may be justification for the widespread feeling that these enquiries are farce. Many of us here have been making statements based upon personal information; but Government, on the strength of the reports of their District Magistrates, have totally denied the allegations? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—
" The enquiry is not a farce. The District Magistrates are performing their duty honestly and I do not think any further instructions are necessary."

Alleged Police excesses in Madura on the 25th February 1932.

* 1100 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that on the 25th February last at 10 a.m., Congress volunteers Messrs. Pitchai Kone and Devendra Kone when distributing Congress notices near Krishnagar Teppakulam in Madura, were arrested and taken to No. 2 Police station;

23rd March 1932]

(b) whether it is a fact that they were kept in custody from 11 a.m. on the 25th to 6-30 p.m. on the 26th February without being provided with food even once during the whole period and that they were not even allowed to get their food themselves; and

(c) whether it is a fact that they were threatened and beaten and compelled to state who published the notices and where they were published?

A.—*(a) to (c)* The Government have no information and have called for it.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to place the information on the table of the House as soon as it is received?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The usual procedure will be followed, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"In view of the fact that the Government have still to get the information—they say they have called for the information—may not the question be adjourned to the next meeting of the Council?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I do not think it is possible. Any further information the hon. Member requires may be asked for by giving notice of a further question."

Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—"Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to say if the information has been received; if not when it will be received?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, I cannot say, Sir."

Alleged Police excesses on picketers in Kommunur village, Gudivada taluk.

* 1101 *Q.*—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Sreemathis Cherukururi Veeyamma and two other lady volunteers picketed the toddy shop of Kommunur village, Gudivada taluk, Kistna district, on the 14th February 1932;

(b) whether the Police splashed them with coloured water on that day;

(c) whether on the 15th idem the Police poured toddy over their heads in addition to drenching them with coloured water;

(d) whether on the next day (16th February 1932) while repeating the above process, the Police indulged in insulting and obscene language;

(e) whether on the 17th idem the Police poured coloured water over their heads, removing sarees therefrom;

(f) whether on the 18th the Police poured tar mixed with marking-nut juice; and

(g) what action the Government have taken, or will take, against the offending policemen?

A.—The Government have no information and have called for it.

[23rd March 1932

Alleged Police excesses on civil resisters by the Police at Robertsonpeta, Kistna district.

* 1102 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Messrs. Meka Adinarayana, Nimmoyadda Venkatakrishnayya and G. Suryaprakasa Rao who were distributing leaflets on different occasions were taken to Robertsonpeta Police station (Kistna district) and beaten with lathis in the Police lock-up and let off; and

(*b*) if so, why they were not proceeded against in a Court of Law for any offence that they may have committed, instead of being beaten with lathis?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

Alleged Police excesses on Nagi Reddi of Pamarru.

* 1103 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether on the evening of the 17th January 1932, Nagi Reddi was beaten in Pamarru with lathis for hoisting a national flag, and if so, why he was subjected to blows, without being placed before a Magistrate for trial for any offence he may have committed?

A.—The Government have no information and have called for it.

Medical Registration Act

Grant to the Madras Medical Council.

* 1104 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. Arasu: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the President of the Madras Medical Council has applied to the Government for an additional grant for meeting the expenditure of the office of the Council for the current year; and

(*b*) if so, how much and the reason advanced for the additional expenditure?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Rs. 1,000 which was subsequently reduced to Rs. 500. The amount is reported to be required to meet the extra expenditure on account of the election of members to the Medical Council and also to make up the fall in receipt owing to the decrease in the number of medical practitioners who applied for registration.

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Is the hon. the Home Member aware of the fact that the Medical schools and colleges in this Presidency are every year turning out a larger number of medical students, and if so, how does the hon. Member reconcile that fact with the statement made in this answer, namely, that there has been a decrease in the number of Medical practitioners applying for registration? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—

[illegible]

23rd March 1932]

Alleged delay in the registration of Medical practitioners.

* 1105 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any complaints that practitioners who have applied for registration and paid the necessary fees as far back as 1927 have not received any evidence of their registration till 1931; and

(*b*) if so, whether the Government have ascertained the causes of the delay.

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Is the hon. Member aware that one of the leading medical practitioners Dr. Rama Kamath has specifically written to the President of the Medical Council drawing his attention to the fact that several medical practitioners who had paid their fees as early as 1926 and 1927 have not yet been registered? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I shall enquire."

UNSTARRED QUESTION

Medical Administration

Advisory committee attached to the Government Headquarters Hospital at Nellore.

1106 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur YAHYA ALI SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is an advisory committee attached to the Government Headquarters Hospital at Nellore ;

(*b*) when it was constituted ;

(*c*) how many meetings of the said body have been convened up to date by its secretary ;

(*d*) whether an instance was brought to the notice of the District Medical Officer of a scheme of fraud practised in the hospital in the supply of diet, etc., to the hospital ;

(*e*) whether this matter was taken to the notice of the advisory committee and if not, why not ; and

(*f*) whether it was brought to the notice of the Government and if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) 1920.

(*c*) According to a report received from the Surgeon-General in 1928, four meetings of the Committee were held in the years 1920—1926 and seven meetings could not be held for want of a *quorum*. Government have no further information.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Government have no information.

[23rd March 1932

(*f*) *In submitting the tenders for the supply of diet articles* and other hospital necessaries for 1932–33 the District Medical Officer, Nellore, reported that allegations were made that the hospital clerk was having an interest in the contracts for supply of articles to the hospital. In *passing orders on the tenders for 1932–33,* Government have called for a report on the result of the disciplinary action against the clerk.

[*Note*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ALLOTMENT OF A DAY FOR THE DISCUSSION OF THE RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE REPORT.

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Mr. President, Sir, the Report of the Retrenchment Committee was circulated to us only yesterday evening. Even at a casual look through the Report of the Committee, one will see that it is of a very far-reaching importance and there are many points which the House must profitably discuss. This is the Report of a Committee of this House, namely the Finance Committee, which has been vested with the powers to go into the question of retrenchment. Therefore, I would ask the Government whether they will be pleased to allot a day for the discussion of the Report of the Retrenchment Committee? "

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" We shall be glad to consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" I hope it will not be too late in the session when matters may have been taken in hand by the Government and their orders passed. Putting it off to a later date will mean that the Government will have to pass their orders without taking into consideration the views of this House on the matter."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" A day for the discussion of the Report of the Retrenchment Committee cannot be allotted during the present session of the Council."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, in view of the fact that the Council will not be meeting before August or September next, will not the Government consider the desirability of discussing the Report some time this session? I consider no useful purpose will be served by a discussion of the Report next session when the orders of Government thereon would have been passed. It will be just like beating a dead horse." (An hon. Member: ' Post mortem.')

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Sir, it is not possible to give a day during the present session of the Council. The suggestion will be considered for the next session."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, may I submit a petition? "

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" It may be done when that subject is under consideration."

III.—THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE FOR 1932–33.

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move— 11– a.m

'*That, with a view to the constitution of a Committee on Public Accounts for the financial year* 1932–33, *this Council do proceed, on a date to be fixed by the hon. the President, to elect seven Members to be Members of the said Committee.*' "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" In accordance with the Regulations framed under Standing Order No. 80 for the election of Members of the Public Accounts Committee by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. to-day as the time within which notice of nominations should be given to the Secretary. If the number of candidates exceeds the number of vacancies, viz., seven, there will be an election between 12 noon and 2 p.m. to-morrow the 24th instant."

IV.—THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR 1932–33.

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*That in accordance with Resolution No.* 2 *passed at the meeting of the Legislative Council on the 8th August* 1929 *regarding the constitution of the Finance Committee, this Council do proceed, on a date to be fixed by the hon. the President, to elect eight Members to be Members of the Finance Committee for the financial year* 1932–33.' "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I second it."

The motion was put and carried.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" In accordance with the Regulations framed under Standing Order No. 80 for the purpose of election by means of the single transferable vote, I fix 3 p.m. to-day as the time within which notice of nominations should be given to the Secretary. If the number of candidates nominated exceeds the number of vacancies, viz., eight, there will be an election between 12 noon and 2 p.m. to-morrow."

V.—ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY.

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

'*That with reference to G.O. No.* 55 *Ry., dated* 10*th December* 1923, *this Council do recommend to the Government to communicate to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company the names of two persons elected by this Council in accordance with the arrangements made in that behalf by the hon. the President to sit on the advisory committee of the said railway after* 31*st March* 1932 *when the term of office of the present members of the Committee will expire.*' "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I second it."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, may I request you to see that the order of selection in this case is by means of

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The practice is they are elected without any such restriction. This has been going on for the last so many years and I don't see any reason why there should be any deviation now in that."

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" I respectfully agree with the hon. Chief Minister." (Laughter.)

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I say that the method of election by single transferable vote gives a chance to those parties in this Council who are in a minority. Whereas in the case of parties who are in a majority in the Council now they have all the chances, and the minority parties get no chance at all."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think there is certainly a difference of opinion on the method of election. But as there is no agreement among the several parties regarding the change in the procedure adopted all these years I do not propose to make any change.

" It now remains for me to lay down the method by which the election is to be held. I would suggest that hon. Members hand in nominations to the Secretary before 3 p.m. to-day. If the number of candidates nominated exceeds two, an election will be held between 12 noon and 2 p.m. to-morrow the 24th. The election will be by the ordinary method and not according to the method of single transferable vote."

VI.—DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1931-32.

GRANT IV—FOREST—RESERVED.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'That Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 100 under Grant IV—Forest—Reserved.'

" The reason for this Demand is fully set out in the Explanatory Note already circulated to the Members of the House. All the facts are mentioned there. And I may tell my friends that they will see in the note a statement to the effect that Government will be able to find the necessary funds by re-appropriation from the total sum budgeted under 'Forests.'. I want authority from this House for making this re-appropriation. So I make this token motion."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

GRANT VII—IRRIGATION—CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT—RESERVED.

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

'That Government be granted a further sum not exceeding Rs. 20,07,000 under Grant VII—Irrigation—Cauvery-Mettur Project—Reserved.'

23rd March 1932]

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move—

> '*that the grant of a further sum of Rs.* 20,07,000 *under Cauvery-Mettur Project be reduced by Rs.* 100.'

" (i) to impress the necessity and urgency of supplying drinking-water to Salem Town and wayside villages from Mettur Dam and to urge for early action; (ii) to urge upon the Government to throw open the bridge across the Cauvery at Mettur for free use of the public; (iii) and to discuss the question of giving water-supply from Mettur Dam to Salem and Coimbatore districts for irrigational purposes.

" Sir, the question of drinking-water supply from Mettur to Salem may be considered irrelevant in this demand, but......"

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Order, order, the hon. Member will not be in order in discussing the first of the three points be has given notice of, as it would naturally come only under Public Health. So the hon. Member should confine himself to his second and third points."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Very well, Sir, I omit my first point now. With regard to the second point I have given notice of, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Revenue Member to the fact that there is a bridge across the Cauvery at Mettur, a very strong and durable one, and a long chain of locomotives fully loaded with metal and other such materials freely goes over it and it is broad enough to allow other traffic also. When such is the case it is a wonder that the public are not allowed to pass over the bridge freely. I understand that the ferry-farm of that station is generally being sold in auction, and consequently the contractor is allowed to collect fees from all persons (excepting those who are employed in the Dam work) passing over that bridge. If my information is correct, and I think it will be, I do not know why this arrangement should exist. The Dam work is in progress on both sides of the river, and so the people at whose cost this huge dam is raised, will naturally have the curiosity to go there to see the progress of the dam work. If they are to have a complete look at the works that are being carried out at Mettur, they will have to cross the river by the bridge, and I don't see why such people should be penalized by being made to pay a toll, as it were. The House must bear in mind the fact that the work is going on on both sides of the river, i.e., both on the Salem and Coimbatore district sides, and so, any way, the people who go there to look at the dam work from any place have to cross the river by this bridge. Motor cars are not permitted to pass over the bridge: then imagine the position of those who go there in motor cars. They will have to leave the cars on one side and walk to the workspot and camp on the other side. Sometimes the distance will come to more than a mile or two. The bridge is not in a regular route and if free passage of cars, etc., are allowed, it will not be a hindrance at all, as only a very few cars or vehicles will be passing over it. So in this cut motion, I urge the hon. Revenue Member to consider this matter and throw open the bridge for free use of the public, both pedestrian as well as vehicular traffic.

[Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder] [23rd March 1932

"With regard to the supply of water from the Mettur Dam to Salem and Coimbatore districts for irrigational purposes, we have urged this question time after time in this House, but the hon. Revenue Member and the Government have not been pleased to bestow their proper and sympathetic attention in the matter. The dam is constructed in the Salem and the Coimbatore district limits and considerable difficulty has been caused to the people of these districts. More than 20 villages have been vacated for the construction of the dam, and thus a considerable portion of the population of the two districts have been forced to quit their homes and lands. When a section of the people of these districts have been made to undergo so much difficulty, I ask why some at least in these districts should not be allowed the benefit of water-supply from the dam? Time and again this question has been raised here and every time we were told that the scheme is not practicable. But I should like to remind the hon. Member of the proverb, 'Where there is a will there is a way.' I hear from my friends, some of whom are well-versed in engineering, that the scheme is practicable if only Government do take a genuine interest in the affair. There is no use of calculating high rates of water-cess and flinging the same at the face of the people to dismay them. The Government must be humanitarian and sympathetic and have a determination to help the people. So I request the hon. Revenue Member to consider this matter once again and grant our request, levying only such water-rate as we shall be able to bear though it may be at a considerable loss to Government. The people are very keen about this and so it is not proper on the part of Government to veto their request again and again. The other day my hon. Friend Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai was complaining that the Government are forcing the water from the Mettur Dam on the ryots in some portion of the Tanjore district even without consulting them. But we here are urging on the Government to give us water, but they are not willing to do so. So I request the hon. Revenue Member to bestow his attention on this matter, as it will be of much help to the people and as it will satisfy a long-felt need. In this connexion I would suggest to him to appoint a non-official committee of engineers, as I said the other day, to go into the question once more with a firm determination that Salem and Coimbatore districts should be benefited by the Mettur Dam, or by any other new scheme as a compassionate and compensative measure."

* Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur:—"Mr. President, Sir, I rise to speak on the water-supply for irrigation purposes to Salem district from the Mettur Dam. Sir, as already pointed out by several speakers on previous occasions, the river Cauvery is running through Salem and Coimbatore districts, and yet Government say that they cannot afford to give these people any irrigation facilities from the Dam. Nowadays there is no difficulty that cannot be overcome. So the plea of difficulty is a myth. We read in Ramayana how Indrajith fought against Lakshmana in the air and concealed himself in the clouds. At one time we thought it was an impossibility; but nowadays we see aeroplanes hovering over our heads and we saw in the Great War how air fights were going on. Similarly in the case of other things

23rd March 1932] [Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa]

which we once thought to be possible only in dreamlands, they too are coming into existence in our own days. So when such things are possible, what is the difficulty in supplying for irrigation purposes, water to the Salem district? The other day Mr. Nadimuthu Pillai of Tanjore complained that Government had thrust the use of Mettur water on the ryots of certain taluks in Tanjore without consulting them; whereas we here are clamouring for water-supply saying that we are ready to pay any amount as water-cess, and yet Government are not willing to grant our request. Salem, as we all know, is a dry district, and ever since I came into this House in 1927, myself and others have been repeatedly urging on the Government this matter unsuccessfully. In these days nothing is impossible if you only spend some more money in your enterprise. Sir, we have been told that a sheet of rock in the Namakkal taluk prevents the carrying of water to that area. May I just remind Government that they are running railways by boring tunnels in rocks? Similarly why not they bore tunnels and take water to the Namakkal taluk? So, I say, if only Government do really want to do the thing they can do it.

"With regard to the supply of drinking water I want to say only one thing. We have very often raised this matter in this House and till now we have not been given any direct reply to our demand; all that we have been receiving is only an indirect answer. Every official who has been on a visit to the Salem town, and Members of this House, as well as the hon. Revenue Member himself, have been impressed with this necessity and yet no attempt is made to improve the position. Let them remember that water is the principal item of food. A man may remain without food for some days; but he cannot remain so without drinking-water. The essential thing in food is water. Sir, I know you have ruled this subject as out of order in this Demand, but the urgent need of drinking-water to Salem town made me speak and so all I am saying here is that Government should consider this as a very serious question and take immediate steps in the matter."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" Mr. President, I do not propose to follow 11-41
the gallant Member from Salem in his request to provide drinking-water a.m.
supply from Mettur Dam to Salem district for irrigational purposes. I wish only to make a few observations on the motion of the hon. the Revenue Member. The hon. the Revenue Member has come forward with a Demand for Rs. 20 lakhs. This reveals a serious state of affairs, and I ask whether the hon. the Finance Member and the hon. the Revenue Member have taken care to see, that the Budget Estimates for the year 1931–32 framed by the officers were correct. If this sort of lax budgeting were allowed to go on indefinitely I shall not be surprised if the finances of this Province were to get into confusion. Sir, I would ask the Finance Member as to how he could have found it possible to give this excess of 20 lakhs if he had not at his disposal the large balances of the Madras Government. As I have pointed out on the occasion of the General Discussion on the Budget, it is a bad policy on the part of the Government to have large balances at their disposal. They constitute a source of temptation to the spending

departments. When Governments have large balances at their disposal —and lying idle too—there is a tendency on the part of the spending departments to go on spending more than their allotments. This kind of lax budgeting will eventually lead to great confusion in the finances of the country. Therefore I rave to request the hon. Revenue Member to issue instructions to the officers concerned with the Mettur Project Scheme to be careful in framing their Budget Estimates."

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" Mr. President, Sir, I do not believe that the Government has any heart in dealing with the legitimate grievances of the ryots in the Coimbatore and Salem districts in connexion with the distribution of water from the Mettur Project. Time and again in this Council a number of us who are not interested in any one district as against another have pointed out the injustice and unfairness in permitting all water to be utilized in one district. On the face of it, it seems to me so unfair and unjust. I do not know why it is that Government is so hard-hearted as not to take into consideration the grievances of Salem and Coimbatore districts. Apart from other considerations there is one aspect which ought to convince the Government of the desirability of giving this water to a number of districts instead of giving all this water to one particular area. By giving all this water to one particular area a number of difficult problems are created. Firstly, the question of drainage, which probably may not arise if water is given to other districts in smaller quantities will cost Government a lot of money. If the water is to be confined to a particular area, the cost of labour in that area will go up. The question of getting green manure and other manures in sufficient quantities will arise. All this will add to the cost of cultivation which would result in the ryots not being in a position to pay remunerative prices for the water they take. I do not think I need go into the question any more because we have been speaking about this time and again and Government seem to be determined not to supply water to any except the Tanjore district. The hon. the Revenue Member who is very sympathetic otherwise will see his way as to the necessity and the desirability of supplying water from this very big Reservoir Project to some other districts besides Tanjore. I do not see why we representing the people of all districts should vote large sums of money for giving advantage to one particular district."

* The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" Mr. President, my Friend Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder referred first to the bridge over the Cauvery at Mettur. That bridge was constructed as part of the works necessary for carrying on the construction of the Mettur dam. There are two lines of railway on the bridge, and trams are constantly crossing it during the day, during working hours and sometimes beyond them; these trams carry stones, sand and other materials for the construction of the dam. As far as I know, the bridge is also used very largely by pedestrians and occasionally by other traffic. If we admitted unlimited traffic during working hours, the construction of the dam would be materially interfered with and in the long run there would be an appreciable delay in completing the work. I have, however, in connexion with a question which has been put to me recently and which has

23rd March 1932] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

not yet been answered, called for a report regarding the use of the bridge. I am not aware of the fact that any toll is collected on the bridge. I will see if anything can be done there in respect of making the bridge available for the use of the public to a greater extent than it is at present.

" Another point, which was raised by Mr. Arasu, is that this large demand indicated lax budgeting. In the construction of such a huge work as Mettur Dam, it is extremely difficult to foresee in the earlier stages of the work exactly how much we shall be able to spend in any particular year. Those who have seen that dam when foundations had been excavated will realize that it is absolutely impossible for anyone to foresee before the excavations are begun exactly at what depth the rock on which the dam could be founded would be discovered at each particular point of the dam. So in the first place it was extremely difficult to say how far the foundations have to be carried down at each particular point of this huge dam. Another difficulty during the excavation of the foundations was that we might receive serious floods at any moment which would fill the foundations so far as they were excavated. At such times the machinery had to be taken out of the excavations very hurriedly and before the work could be resumed the water would have to be pumped out of the excavations and the machinery replaced. It would mean weeks of delay before the machinery could be working again in the excavations. The estimates for each year as hon. Members are aware have to be with the Government in the previous October and, in connexion with the Cauvery-Mettur Project, we have to send to the Government of India very early in January a statement of the amounts we shall require from the provincial loans fund. So the estimates have to be prepared very much in advance and all that the engineers can do is to base them on reasonable probabilities as to what is likely to happen as regards the progress of the work bearing in mind the difficulties I have referred to. We have happened to be extremely fortunate during the past year and the work has progressed very much quicker during the last two seasons than we had reason to expect. But it would have been very unwise not to take advantage of our good fortune and push on the work merely because we had not felt justified in anticipating so advantageous a season. That is the reason why we come to the House for additional grant of 20 lakhs which we have been able to spend. It is not because there has been waste of money.

" The third point which has been raised in this debate is the question of supply of water to Salem district for the purpose of irrigation in that district. I do not refer, Sir, to the minor point, viz., the supply of drinking water to Salem town which is an entirely different project with which my hon. Friend the Minister is concerned, as you have yourself ruled it out of order. The Engineers at Mettur, have always been ready to do all they can to provide for any reasonable scheme to supply drinking water to Salem town. The proposal to supply water to Salem district from the Cauvery Irrigation has been under consideration for the last 30 years. From the way hon. Members speak, one would imagine that the matter has received very scant consideration at the hands

[Sir Archibald Campbell] [23rd March 1932

of Government. A scheme was put up in 1904 for the irrigation of 27,000 acres in the Salem district; that was known as the Cauvery-Nerinjipet project. The idea was to have an anicut and take channels to distribute the water. Sir John Benton advised the dropping of the suggestion owing to the heavy cost of reclamation and cultivation of tracts entailing slow development, high cost of works required, tortuous nature of proposed alignment and the liability to frequent silting and breaching of the channels. In the revised project which is now in execution no provision has been made for irrigation in the Salem district. The question whether it is not possible to give some water to the district has been considered very carefully. In 1924 a committee consisting of the representatives of the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, Tanjore and Trichinopoly in the Legislative Council was constituted to consider the details of the location of new areas to be served by the Cauvery-Mettur project. An hon. Member proposed that a committee should be appointed now; such a committee was constituted in 1924 and actually reported on the areas to be irrigated.

"That Committee 'decided that the Chief Engineer should be asked to quote rates for a channel to take off from the Mettur Reservoir and provide for irrigation in Salem district, and to report what effect this would have on the rates proposed for new irrigation in Tanjore.' The Chief Engineer reported at the end of 1926 that a channel could be constructed on the east side of the reservoir to irrigate 27,000 acres at a cost of 85 lakhs, and the water-rate necessary to make the project productive would be Rs. 29·5 per acre. The Chief Engineer also pointed out that the objections already mentioned by Sir John Benton would apply to this scheme. The subject was again discussed in the reports submitted by the deputation of members of the Legislative Council who visited the Mettur project works in 1928. One of the recommendations made by these hon. Members was that Salem and two other districts should share the benefits of the Mettur project. The Government again ordered that the subject should be investigated afresh and in 1929 directed a further investigation of four schemes, namely—

(1) a channel to join up the Mettur Reservoir with the east side channel of the late Mr. Moss's Nerinjipet scheme;

(2) if feasible, a more promising line from the Reservoir further east from the river;

(3) extension of irrigation under the present open head channels in the Salem district;

(4) if none of the three schemes mentioned above should be promising, an anicut and canal at some place above the junction of the Bhavani with the Cauvery to irrigate lands in the Salem district.

"I think those were very wide terms of reference to the Engineer to make these investigations. The result of the investigation was that none of the schemes was considered practicable at a reasonable cost, though the east side channel was the least unpromising. So far as that scheme was concerned, the water-rate would have to be levied at Rs. 27 to Rs. 32 per acre. I do not think the ryots would pay this

23rd March 1932] [Sir Archibald Campbell]

rate, though my hon. and gallant Friend Subadar-Major Nanjappa now says that they will agree to pay any rate necessary if only we construct the works. When the estimates for the Mettur project was under preparation the Tanjore ryots raised no objection to paying Rs. 15 an acre. A resolution was actually carried in this House which involved a water-rate of Rs. 15. Now we are told that the ryots cannot pay anything approaching that rate. I think it is quite an impracticable proposition and a waste of time to make any further investigation of a scheme which would involve a water-rate of Rs. 27 to Rs. 30. I am sorry we cannot take measures to enable the people of Salem to make use of the water going past their doors. But I must repudiate the suggestion that the Government have in the past not given very careful and full consideration to this question."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I make a few remarks? Investigation of the several alternatives for supply of water to the Salem district was mentioned, of which one was to extend the korambu channels. The hon. Member has not said anything as to the result of this investigation. I think it is rather strange that Government came to the conclusion that they could not allow even small extensions on these korambu channels. I think it is perfectly feasible. I do not think they will be able to get 20,000 acres or so, but possibly only 1,000 or 2,000 acres. In view of the fact that Salem district is so very badly off so far as irrigation sources are concerned, and that the Cauvery is running through that district without the people participating in its water, it seems only fair that Government should consider the feasibility of extending the irrigation under the korambu channels."

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" I have got the details here. There are three korambu channels, namely, Rajavaikkal, Kumarapalaiyam channel and the Mohanur channel. 'The Kumarapalaiyam channel has no independent source of supply but receives the tail surplus and drainage from the Rajavaikal and its branch, the Poyyeri channel.'

" The result of the investigation was to show that a total additional extent of 3,900 acres could be irrigated from all the channels together of which an extent of 1,200 acres could be irrigated by direct flow by excavating a branch from the Poyyeri channel and the rest by baling with a maximum lift of 15 feet. The cost was worked out at the preliminary investigation. If the scheme should not reduce the return from the Mettur project on the credit side, the water-rate would have to be roughly Rs. 46 an acre. If we do not expect the same return on the Mettur project but simply charge to the project the cost of the distributary system as well as a proportionate share of the Mettur dam the water-rate works out at Rs. 33 per acre."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Sir, may I, with your permission, ask one further question? "

[23rd March 1932

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" If it is in the form of a question, I have no objection. "

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" In view of the fact that the district is depending entirely on the Mettur Project, purely as a humanitarian measure, will not Government be pleased to consider the possibility of giving some water from the canal channels as the people in this district are very badly off? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" I cannot hold out any hopes. The decision was arrived at in April 1930 and the papers have been published."

* Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Mr. President, with regard to the point raised in my cut motion, the hon. the Revenue Member has said that he has called for a report. It is of course a good news. I wish to point out that the bridge is broad enough and it will not matter if motor cars and other traffic are allowed to pass through it. It will not be of much hindrance to locomotive traffic, because the traffic will be scarce. Only people who go to Mettur with a view to have a look at the dam work will be passing through it. As a general rule, there will not be any huge traffic over that bridge. As a matter of fact, officers and the employees who are concerned in the dam work are passing over the bridge both by walk and in their motor cars and motor cycles and it is not a hindrance at all. And I cannot understand why people who go there to have a look at the dam should not be allowed on it. With regard to the collecting of tolls, I have got information from some of the people that even pedestrians except those who are employed in the dam work are made to pay fees when they pass over the bridge. I think it is not fair that people who generally go there to have a look at the dam should be asked to pay this sort of tolls. So, I hope the hon. the Revenue Member will remove this difficulty complained of by me as soon as he gets a report on this matter.

" With regard to the second point, the hon. the Revenue Member has given a very disappointing reply. The Government always calculate that the rate for irrigation will come to as much as Rs. 30 or so and bombard the ryots to strike dumb. But as my Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar pointed out, the hon. the Revenue Member must be somewhat lenient and take pity on the people of Salem and be generous enough to satisfy the needs of the people though it be at considerable loss to Government, for if they lose in one, they gain in the other. The hon. the Revenue Member, Sir, is going through the records which have been prepared from the very beginning with a single and definite view that water from Mettur Dam should be concentrated to Tanjore and Tanjore alone and not to Salem, or Trichinopoly or Coimbatore districts. But I would urge on the hon. the Revenue Member to consider the question from a separate view point, entirely leaving aside the obstacles set forth in the records now before him. As I understand the hon. Member's disposition, he is always prepared to show sympathy to any one who really deserves it, and as I also hear that

23rd March 1932] [Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder]

in the districts in which he has served he was always very lavish in his generosity, I do not think he will be so stern now as not to consider the question once again from a fresh point of view. In the sincere hope that the hon. the Revenue Member will not drop the question altogether, but will again go into the matter and see that the Salem district gets at any rate some adequate water-supply for irrigation, I withdraw the motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant made.

GRANT X—SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTERS ESTABLISHMENTS—*DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS*—RESERVED.

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" Mr. President on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 100 *under Grant* X—*Secretariat and Headquarters Establishments, District Administration and Miscellaneous—Reserved.*'

" Sir, this is a token motion, to provide for the work which has been done in the Secretariat in connexion with the Franchise Enquiry which was going on till quite recently. The matter is explained in some detail in the note which is at the disposal of the hon. Members. The expenditure includes provision for the pay of an Additional Secretary to Government and an establishment of one upper division clerk and one steno-typist. The Additional Secretary was also the Secretary to the Madras Franchise Committee."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant made.

GRANT XXXVIII—REFUNDS OF REVENUE—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move— 12-11 p.m.

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 56,800 *under Grant XXXVIII—Refunds of Revenue—Reserved and Transferred.*'

" The House will notice that on the notice paper the amount is mentioned as Rs. 82,800. It was found, since we gave notice of this Demand, that we shall not require that amount. Now the amount which the House is asked to vote is only Rs. 56,800. The details with regard to the other items for which this amount is required are given in the explanatory note that has been furnished to hon. Members."

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—" Sir, I am constrained to oppose this Demand of the hon. the Finance Member because in the explanatory note it is stated:

' In connexion with the retrenchment campaign heads of departments concerned were directed in September 1931 to examine the course of actuals and to surrender anticipated savings under the heads of refunds controlled by them.

A saving of Rs. 1,00,400 was then anticipated and this amount was accordingly resumed and held under the Grant. *The position has subsequently been reviewed on the basis of nine months' actuals.'*

"I submit further down you will observe that relating to an excess expenditure occurring under the Excise Department, it is said that refunds or remissions are to be given to renters of excise. Sir, I find from the report of the Retrenchment Committee that they have discouraged such a system and say that such remissions ought not to be given to renters and no such assurances should be given to renters. In connexion with the Forest Department the Retrenchment Committee recommended a reorganization of the whole of the Forest Panchayats by the abolition of the Forest Panchayat Officer and the special staff of Deputy Tahsildars, and that thereby savings should be effected. Therefore the whole of this Demand refers to retrenchment proposals and we have not had the opportunity of discussing the Retrenchment Committee's report submitted to the Government. The Retrenchment Committee was appointed by this House and the Government is responsible to place the proposals of the Committee before this House. It is the privilege of this House to review that report. I am contending that on principle this House has got a right of going into the whole matter. I am afraid that the Madras Government, in not allotting a day for the discussion of this matter, is really depriving this House of the opportunity and the right to discuss the subject. The Madras Government cannot afford to flout the opinion of this House. It is a very extraordinary position taken up by the Government. I think no constitutional Government will ever dare to encroach upon the privileges of this House like this. The position taken up by the Government is not at all sanctioned by any convention or tradition of any Legislature. Now the Retrenchment Committee has made its report and they ask us to vote straightaway without giving us an opportunity to discuss the report. They ask us to vote for this Demand because it is a Demand emanating from the Government, and we are bound to carry out the orders of the Government. It is entirely unwarranted on the part of the Government to presume the consent of this House in a matter like this. The bureaucracy must remember that it is only with the active co-operation and with the willing consent of the people that the administration of the country can be carried on.

"I have got one more word to add. I was very very disappointed at the way in which I got a reply to my question this morning. I do not know what prevented the Madras Government from allotting one more day for the discussion of the report of the Retrenchment Committee. I do not know what impediment there was in the way of their sanctioning this request. They say 'yes, we will tell you when it pleases us'. The mighty Government will tell us when they are pleased and when it suits their convenience, probably during the next session. After the business is finished, after they have passed their orders and given effect to the various recommendations that the Committee has made, the mighty Madras Government will come and ask us to do the funeral ceremony of the Report when everything has been given effect

to in the interval. Therefore, I submit, Sir, it is a very unreasonable position for the Madras Government to take. As I said, no constitutional Government would dare to transgress the powers of this House. I am to oppose this motion. I am sure that those who consider that the powers and privileges of this House have been transgressed by the Government will seriously consider whether they can vote for a motion such as this."

* The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" Sir, I have been sitting trembling under the fiery eloquence of Sir Patro. He seems to be still under the influence of the indignation he felt when he was attacking us because we were unable to add a day to this session in order to enable this House to discuss the Retrenchment Committee's proposals. I have already expressed my regret in not being able to place the report of the Retrenchment Committee before this House much earlier, possibly, even before this session was begun; the reason was that the Committee was not able to get through the whole business. They have done their utmost to get the report printed and it has been placed before the House, I think a day or two ago. I understand that the proposal to allow a day, during the business of the present session, for the discussion of the Retrenchment Committee Report, is not possible without affecting other business. I confess if the hon. Gentleman had intended to raise this matter, perhaps it would have been more courteous if he had addressed the Leader of the House or myself on this point this morning.

" The hon. Member has argued as if that this particular Demand related to retrenchment proposals of the Retrenchment Committee. I confess I am unable to follow him as to how he takes it so. The Retrenchment Committee has indeed made certain proposals for forest reductions and also for various other reductions, but I am unable to see how these particular reappropriations—the necessity of which is explained in the notes that have been circulated to hon. Members—have anything to do with the specific proposals of the Retrenchment Committee or are in any way connected with the report of that Committee. The hon. Member has not dealt in detail with any of the items mentioned in the report, but he has merely dealt with this supplemental Demand. I venture to urge that there is no necessary connexion between the two things. As the hon. Member has not dealt with any of the particular matters referred to in the note, I do not know I need detain the House by attempting to add to the information which is given in respect of it."

The Demand was put and declared carried. A poll was demanded and the House divided thus:

Ayes.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
2. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
3. ,, Sir Archibald Campbell.
4. The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6. ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7. ,, Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.

[23rd March 1932

Ayes—cont.

8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
9. Mr. J. A. Thorne.
10. ,, H. M. Hood.
11. ,, R. Madanagopala Nayudu.
12. ,, S. H. Slater.
13. ,, E. Conran Smith.
14. ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
15. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
16. Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
17. ,, M. Devadasan.
18. ,, N. Siva Raj.
19. Subadar-Major S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
20. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
21. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi.
22. ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
23. ,, T. Narasa Reddi.
24. ,, R. M. Palat.
25. Mr. P. K. Ramachandra Padayachi.
26. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
27. Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri. The
28. Zamindar of Mirzapuram. The
29. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
30. ,, H. B. Ari Gowder.
31. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
32. Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu.
33. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
34. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
35. Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar.
36. ,, K. Koti Reddi.
37. ,, C. Basu Dev.
38. ,, A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
39. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
40. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.
41. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.

Noes.

1. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
2. Mr. Yakub Hasan.
3. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
4. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
5. ,, Gade Simhachalam Pantulu.
6. ,, Abdul Hameed Khan.
7. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
8. Ahmed Miran Sahib Bahadur.
9. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
10. Mr. F. G. Luker.
11. ,, A. W. Hutton.
12. ,, F. Birley.
13. ,, F. E. James.
14. Rai Sahib C. Kulanda Reddi.
15. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
16. Mr. V. T. Arasu.
17. S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.
18. Mr. P. Madhusoodhanan Thangal.
19. ,, C. Krishnan.
20. Swami A. S. Sahajananda.

Neutral.

1. Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar.
2. ,, K. Pattabhiramayya.
3. Mr. G. R. Premayya.

Ayes 41. *Noes* 20. *Neutral* 3.

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

VII.—THE MADRAS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES BILL.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The House will now take up the third reading of the Co-operative Societies Bill. It will be convenient if the hon. Minister moves the amendments first. After the amendments are disposed of he may move the motion standing in his name on the agenda."

Clause 4.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir I move that—

' (1) *in proviso (i) the word " and " be inserted at the end ; and*

(2) *in proviso (ii) the word " its " be inserted between the word " all " and the word " obligations " in the last line, and the words " of such a society " at the end of the proviso be omitted '."*

23rd March 1932]

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 4, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 5.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that in sub-clause (1)—

' (1) *in line 2 of proviso (i) the word " all " be inserted between the word " to " and the word " its ";*

in line 2 of proviso (i) the word " members " be substituted for the word " shareholders ";

(2) *in line 1 of proviso (ii) the word " member " be substituted for the word " shareholder ";*

in line 2 of proviso (ii) the words " by-law or " be inserted between the words " any " and " contract ";

(3) *in line 1 of proviso (iii) the word " member " be substituted for the word " shareholder "; and that*

(4) *in line 3 of sub-clause (2) the word " members " be substituted for the word " shareholders " '."*

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 5, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 9.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that—

' *in sub-clause (2) (a) the words and figures " sub-section (1) of section 7 " be substituted for the words " section 7, sub-section (1) ".' "*

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 9, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 10.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I move that—

' (*i*) *in line 4 a full stop be substituted for the semicolon after the word " by-laws ";*

(*ii*) *in line 4 the word " In " be substituted for the word " in ";*

(*iii*) *in the last line, the words " of refusal " be inserted between the word " order " and the word " by ".' "*

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 10, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 12.

• The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that—

' *in the last line of sub-clause* (2) *the words " of refusal " be inserted between the word " order " and the word " by ".' "*

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 12, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 13.

• The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that—

' (*i*) *at the end of sub-clause* (*a*) (3) *the words " to the Local Government " be omitted.' "*

(*ii*) *in line* 3 *of sub-clause* (*b*) (1) *the word " clear " be inserted between the word " seven " and the word " days notice ";*

(*iii*) in *line* 3 *of sub-clause* (*b*) (2) (*iii*) *the word " creditor " be substituted for the word " member ";*

(*iv*) *at the end of sub-clause* (*b*) (3) *the words " to the Local Government " be omitted.'*

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

The clause, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 16.

Sub-clause (2)

• The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that—

' *in line* 3, *for the words " one of its members " the words " any of its members not disqualified for such appointment under any rules prescribed in that behalf " be substituted* '."

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

The clause, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 17.

Sub-clause (2)

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that—

' *in line* 1, *between the word* " *In* " *and the word* " *case* " *the word* " *the* " *be substituted* '."

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

The clause, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 21.

Sub-clause (1)

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that—

' *in line* 7, *between the word* " *past* " *and the word* "*member* " *the words* " *or deceased* " *be inserted* '."

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

The clause, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 24.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I move that—

' (1) *in sub-clause* (1), *the word* " *and* " *be added at the end of proviso* (*i*);

(2) *in sub-clause* (2), *at the beginning of the sub-clause the words* " *Subject as aforesaid* " *be added; and*

(3) *in line* 1 *of the same sub-clause the word* " *a* " *be substituted for the word* " *A* ".' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

The clause, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 26. 12-45 p.m.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move that—

' *in line* 1 *of item* (*a*), *the word* " *on* " *be substituted for the word* " *at* " *and in line* 1 *of item* (*b*) *the word* " *on* " *be substituted for the word* " *at* ".' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 26, as amended, was put and carried.

[23rd March 1932

Clause 28.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg *to* move the following :—

' (*i*) Insert *the words* " *a decision or* " *between the word* "*Court* " *and the word* " *an* " *in line* 1.

(*ii*) Insert *the word* " *decision*," *between the word* " *decree* " *and the word* " *award* " *in the last line* '."

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 28, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 30.

Sub-clause (2) (*a*).

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Substitute *the words* " *or decisions, awards or orders* " for *the words* " *or awards* " *in line* 5 '."

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 30, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 35.

Sub-clause (1) (*b*).

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Omit *the words* " *II of* " *in line* 2 '."

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 35, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 38.

Sub-clause (2).

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Insert *the word* " *the* " *between the word* " *of* " *and the word* " *cash* " *in lines 2 and 3* '."

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 38, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 39.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' (1) Substitute *the heading* " *Inquiry and Inspection* " for *the heading* " *Inspection and Inquiry.*"

(2) *In sub-clause* 2 (*c*) (*i*):

(*i*) insert *the words* " *rule or* " *between the word* " *any* " *and the word* " *by-law* " *in line* 1;

(*ii*) substitute *the words* " *at the headquarters of the society or any branch thereof* " for *the words* " *within the jurisdiction of the society* " *lines* 4 *and* 5." ' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 39, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 40.

Sub-clause (3).

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Omit *the words and figures* " *or under section* 39 (1) " *in line* 2.' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 40, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 40-*A*.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Insert *the words* " *at all reasonable times* " *between the word* " *shall* " *and the word* " *have* " *in line* 7.' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 40-A, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 42-*A*.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Add *as heading* " *Supersession of Committee of Society* ". ' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 42-A, as amended, was put and carried.

[23rd March 1932

Clause 46.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' (1) Substitute *the words " Such liquidator "* for *the words " A liquidator appointed under sub-section* (1) " *in line* 1 *of sub-clause* (3). '

' (2) Substitute *the words " deceased members or by any officers or former officers "* for *the words " deceased member or by an officer " in lines* 4 *and* 5 *of sub-clause* 3 (*b*).'

' (3) (*i*) Insert *the words " of registration " at the end of the phrase within brackets in lines* 1 *and* 2 *of sub-clause* (3) (*d*).

(*ii*) Insert *the word " such " between the word " of " and the word " cancellation " in line* 6 *of the same sub-clause.*'

' (4) Substitute *the words and brackets " and (so far as may be) "* for *the words and brackets " (so far as may be) and " in sub-clause* (4).' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 46, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 47.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Substitute *the words " of a society "* for *the words " of the society " in line* 3. ' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 47, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 48.

Sub-clause (2).

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

' Substitute *the following* for *sub-clause* (2) :—

" *The order of the Registrar under sub-section* (1) *shall be final unless it is set aside by the District Court having jurisdiction over the area in which the headquarters of the society are situated or if the headquarters of the society are situated in the City of Madras, by the City Civil Court, on application made by the party aggrieved within three months of the date of receipt of the order by him.* " ' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 48, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 50.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Sir, I beg to move the following :—

Sub-clause (1).

'(1) (*i*) Substitute *the following* for *sub-clauses* (*a*) *and* (*b*) :—

" (*a*) *among persons who are members, past members or persons claiming through members, past members and deceased members, or,*

(*b*) *between a member, past member or person claiming through a member, past member or deceased member and the society, its committee or any officer, agent or servant of the society, or* ".

(*ii*) Add *the following explanation at the end of the sub-clause* :—

Explanation.—*A claim by a registered society for any debt or demand due to it from a member, past member or the nominee, heir or legal representative of a deceased member, whether such debt or demand be admitted or not, is a dispute touching the business of the society within the meaning of this sub-section.*'

Sub-clause (3).

'(2) (*i*) Insert *the words, bracket and figure* " *of sub-section* (2) " *between the words, brackets and letter* ' *clause* (*b*) ' *and the word* " *or* " *in line* 3.

(*ii*) Substitute *the words* " *of that sub-section* " *for the words, brackets and figure* " *of sub-section* (2) " *in the same line.*'

" The explanation is added to make the section more clear."

Mr. S. H. Slater :—" I second it."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar :—" I think, Sir, the amendment, as it is in the printed notice, seems to be alright. The further amendment given notice of by the hon. Minister which has just now been circulated to us and which is type-written, it seems to me, will give some trouble. In the printed amendment, he simply says 'among members, past members, past members and persons . . .' etc., but in his second amendment he wants 'among persons who are members, past members or persons . . . ' etc., Sir, it is well-known that in several of the societies, societies themselves are members. Such being the case, the introduction of the word 'persons' will certainly lead to trouble. If you take away from the scope of this section that class of members who are societies, it will work great hardship. The hon. Minister himself knows, I am sure, that we are dealing in a large number of cases with societies as members. So, I would ask the House to accept the amendment as printed on paper and not the one circulated to us in type." 1 p.m.

Mr. S. H. SLATER:—" Sir, the alteration from the form in which the amendment is printed on the notice paper to the one as circulated later was made with the intention of making the English a little more precise; but the criticism of my hon. Friend has certainly some substance in it. The Government will have no objection to allow the amendment to stand as in the printed form."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Then I will put the amendment as printed which is as follows:—

Sub-clause (1).

'(1) (*i*) Substitute *the following* for *sub-clauses* (*a*) *and* (*b*):—

" (*a*) *among members, past members and persons claiming through members, past members and deceased members, or*

(*b*) *between a member, past member or person claiming through a member, past member or deceased member and the society, its committee or any officer, agent or servant of the society, or* "

(*ii*) Add *the following explanation at the end of the sub-clause*:—

Explanation.—*A claim by a registered society for any debt or demand due to it from a member, past member or the nominee, heir or legal representative of a deceased member, whether such debt or demand be admitted or not, is a dispute touching the business of the society within the meaning of this sub-section.*'

Sub-clause (3).

'(2) (*i*) Insert *the words, bracket and figure* " *of sub-section* (2) " *between the words, brackets and letter* "*clause* (*b*) " *and the word* " *or* " *in line* 3.

(*ii*) Substitute *the words* " *of that sub-section* " for *the words, brackets and figures* " *of sub-section* (2) " *in the same line*.' "

The amendment was carried.

Clause 50, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 51.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, I beg to move, that—

'*In sub-clause* (*b*), *the words* " *in this behalf* " *be substituted for the words* " *on this behalf* " *in line* 5.' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER:—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 51, as amended, was put and carried.

23rd March 1932]

Clause 52.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I beg to move that the following be substituted for clause 52 :—

'*Any member or past member or the nominee, heir or legal representative of a deceased member contravening the provisions of section 21 by fraudulently disposing of any property in respect of which the society is entitled to claim priority under that section or doing any other act to the prejudice of such claim, shall be punishable with fine not exceeding two hundred rupees.*' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 52, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 57.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I beg to move the following :—

Sub-clause (1).

' (1) (*i*) Substitute *the words* " *former officer,*" for *the words* " *or* " *after the words* " *an officer* " *in line* 2.

(*ii*) Substitute *the words* " *in any proceeding under this Act* " for *the words* " *under section* 41 ".'

Sub-clause (2).

' (2) Substitute *the words* " *the liability of the members of which is limited* " for *the words* " *of which the liability of the members is limited* " *in lines* 4 *and* 5.' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 57, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 63.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I beg to move the following :—

Sub-clause (2) (*x*).

' (1) (*i*) Substitute *the words* " *this Act* " for *the word and number* " *section* 43 " *in line* 1.

(*ii*) Substitute *the words* " *the cases in which* " for *the words* " *in what cases* " *in line* 2.'

Sub-clause (2) (*y*).

' (2) Insert *the words* " *for which* " *between the word* " *period* " *and the word* " *and* " *in line* 1.'

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [23rd March 1932

Sub-clause (2) (*z*).

'(3) Substitute *the words* " *this Act* " for *the words and figures* " *section* 49 *or section* 50 " *in line* 2.'

Sub-clause (2) (*cc*), *etc.*

'(4) Reletter *the sub-clause as sub-clause* (2) (*ff*) *and reletter the sub-clauses* (*dd*), (*ee*) *and* (*ff*) *as* (*cc*), (*dd*) *and* (*ee*) *respectively.*'

'(5) Omit *the word* " *and* " *at the end of sub-clause* (*dd*) *as relettered.*'

'(6) Add *the semicolon and the word* " ; *and* " *at the end of sub-clause* (*ee*) *as relettered.*' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it. "

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 63, as amended, was put and carried.

Schedule.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I beg to move that—

'*in the schedule at the end of the Bill,* for *the existing entry in column* (3) *against* " 1920 . . . *X* ", substitute *the following* :—

" *The Co-operative Societies* (*Amendment*) *Act,* 1920." ' "

Mr. S. H. SLATER :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

General.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I beg to move the following :—

'Renumber *the clauses in the numerical order and as a consequence make the following alterations in the internal references* :—

Omit *the figure and the word* " 34 (*omitted*) " *after clause* 33.'

Renumber *clauses* 35 *to* 40 *as* 34 *to* 39 *respectively, and in sub-clause* (1) *of clause* 39 *as renumbered in line* 7, *alter* ' 39 ' *into* ' 38.'

Renumber *clause* 40-*A as* 40.

In lines 1 *and* 2 *of clause* 41 for *the figure* ' 39 ' *and* ' 40 ' substitute *the figures* ' 38 ' *and* ' 39 ' *respectively. In line* 9 substitute *the figure* ' 40 ' for *the figure and letter* ' 40-*A*.'

Renumber *clause* 42-*A as* 43.

In clause 43 *as renumbered in sub-clause* (6) alter *the figure* ' 43 ' *into* ' 44.'

Renumber *clause* 43 *as* 44.

23rd March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

In line 2 *of sub-clause* (1) *of clause* 44 *as renumbered* alter *the figure* ' 39 ' *into* ' 38 ' *and in line* 3 alter *the figures* ' 40 ' *and* ' 40-*A* ' *into* ' 39 ' *and* ' 40 ' *respectively.*

Renumber *clause* 44 *as* 45 *and the clause* 45 *as* 46.

In sub-clause (*a*) *of clause* 46 *as renumbered* alter *the figure* '43 ' *into* ' 44 '.

In sub-clause (*b*) *of clause* 46 *as renumbered in line* 2 alter *the figure* ' 44 ' *into* ' 45.'

Renumber *clause* 46 *as* 47.

In sub-clause (1) *of clause* 47 *as renumbered* alter *the figures* ' 43 ' *and* ' 44 ' *as* ' 44 ' *and* ' 45 ' *respectively.*

Renumber *clauses* 47 *and* 48 *as* 48 *and* 49 *respectively.*

In lines 2 *and* 3 *of clause* 49 (1) *as renumbered* alter *the figures* ' 38 ', ' 39 ' *and* ' 40 ' *into* ' 37 '. ' 38 ' *and* ' 39 ' *respectively.*

Renumber *clause* 49 *as* 50.

In line 5 *of clause* 50 *as renumbered* for *the figures* ' 46 ' *and* ' 48 ' substitute *the figures* ' 47 ' *and* ' 49 ' *respectively.*

Renumber *clauses* 50 *to* 62 *as* 51 *to* 63 *respectively.*

Renumber *clause* 62-*A as* 64 *and clause* 63 *as* 65.

In sub-clause (2) (*w*) *of the clause* 65 *as renumbered in line* 2 alter *the figure* ' 46 ' *into* ' 47.'

In sub-clause (2) (*dd*) *as relettered in line* 2 alter *the figure* ' 48 ' *into* '49.'

Renumber *clause* 64 *as* 66 '."

Mr. S. H. Slater :—" I second it. "

The amendments were put and carried.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan :—" Before I proceed to move that the Bill be passed into law, I should like to touch on some of its salient features. The co-operative movement has been in existence for the last 28 years and has made rapid progress during the period. There are now 15,000 societies and the working capital employed in the movement is over 18 crores. The financing and supervision of this vast credit organization presented problems of great magnitude and it became necessary to take stock of the results achieved so far and to convert measures for future development. The present law relating to co-operative societies is embodied in the India Act II of 1912 which like its predecessor the Act X of 1904 laid down merely the general outlines leaving details to be filled in gradually as experience is gained in each Province. The experience gained in the working of the movement during the last two decades in this Presidency has indicated that certain changes were necessary in the existing law in order to facilitate the consolidation of the movement and to ensure its further progress. The necessity for such changes was pointed out by several committees like the Townsend Committee on Co-operation, the Banking Inquiry Committee and the Royal Commission on Agriculture. Recommendations of these bodies were considered by Government and such

[Mr. P. T. Rajan] [23rd March 1932

changes as were found necessary in this Bill were introduced. The Bill was originally drafted by Mr. Hood—the present Finance Secretary—and he brought to bear on the Bill his wide experience gained in his capacity as Registrar, his intimate knowledge of the details of the movement and his zeal for the cause of the movement. Though the Bill has undergone several modifications, especially at the hands of the Select Committee appointed by this Council, the main structure of the Bill remains the same.

" I shall refer to some of the important changes:—

(1) the precise nature of the liability in unlimited liability societies and the mode of enforcing such liability has been defined;

(2) freedom is given to societies to change their liability from limited to unlimited and from unlimited to limited;

(3) provision is made for division and amalgamation of societies;

(4) power to inspect societies is given to financing banks;

(5) powers are given to the Registrar to execute decrees speedily;

(6) power is given to supersede committees of societies with a view to give opportunities for societies to avoid, if possible, the extreme step of liquidation;

(7) greater facilities are given to the liquidators to wind up the affairs of societies speedily;

(8) provision is made for the recovery of moneys misappropriated or fraudulently retained by means of a surcharge;

15 m. (9) provision is made to give power to the Registrar to call a general body meeting of a society in case the committee refuses to do so, at the request of the members or of the financing bank;

(10) to avoid any possible miscarriage of justice the Registrar is invested with power of revision in arbitration cases and also with power to attach property before decision when there is fear of alienation of property;

(11) provision is made to enable Government to grant loans to, take shares in, or give financial assistance in any other form to any society;

(12) provision is made to take notice of the failure of societies to comply with certain provisions of the Bill. Wilful submission of false returns and the wilful disobedience of summons are made offences under the Bill. The offences are made non-congnizable and triable only by a first-class Magistrate, while an adequate safeguard against irresponsible prosecutions is provided by requiring the permission of the Registrar before launching a prosecution. The existence of the penal sections will stimulate business methods in the minds of co-operators and the provisions are based upon the English Industrial and Provident Societies Act.

" These are the chief changes incorporated in the Bill and I hope that these new provisions will be of great help in dealing with the defects in the existing organizations. The Bill has also provided for

23rd March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

greater measure of control by non-official bodies like financing banks over the co-operative societies with a view to secure their co-operation in the expansion and progress of the movement.

"Now, Sir, the Bill had secured an easy passage through the House and it was due to the labours of the Select Committee which sat consecutively for four days and subjected the provisions of the Bill to a detailed and careful scrutiny. I must thank the Members of the Legislative Council for their help and valuable suggestions and in particular my Friend from Coimbatore, Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar, for having placed at the disposal of the Committee his wide experience and knowledge as also Rao Sahib Badeti Venkataramayya, the Chairman of the Committee, for having conducted the proceedings of the Committee ably to the satisfaction of all concerned. I must also thank the Advocate-General and Mr. R. V. Krishna Ayyar, Secretary, Legislative Council (Hear, hear) for their valuable help. My thanks and of the House are also due to Mr. Strathie, Mr. Slater, Mr. Ramamurti and Rao Bahadur Daivasikhamani Mudaliyar for their arduous labours in connexion with this Bill. Lastly, I convey my sincere thanks to the hon. Members of this House for having helped me in getting the Bill through so quickly.

"Now, I move, Sir—

'*that the Bill be passed into law*'."

Mr. S. H. Slater:—"I second it."

* Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—"Sir, in supporting the motion before the House, I wish to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Bill does not confer any boons on anybody, but it only supplies certain arrangements by which the movement can be worked better. If we have succeeded in framing the arrangements under which the movement can be worked, its progress depends upon how things are going to be done and what sort of help the Government and the public are going to give to the movement for its successful working. It is up to those connected with the movement, both officials and non-officials, to see that the movement gets a hold on the people in the way in which the framers of the Bill and those who are responsible for enacting this measure desire it to do. Sir, the movement has reached a stage where those who are connected with it are feeling not a little anxiety about its future. The general depression in the country has affected this movement also as it has affected every other avocation in life. At the same time there have been certain defects in the movement itself which as time goes on have made themselves more and more felt. I have been saying both in this Council and elsewhere that the movement did not start, as it has started in other countries, from the bottom upwards. Here in this country, the movement was practically organized from above, by the Government. The Government seeing the position in which the people were placed with regard to one activity on their part, namely, their contracting of debts, wanted to frame certain measures by which they could help them to get out of their difficulty. Though they framed the first Act, in which only the question of finance was mentioned, later on the possibilities of the movement were realized by those who were in charge of

the department and they wanted to make certain changes in that Act in such a way that the movement could be utilized for other purposes as well. It was said the other day by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, that in Denmark the co-operative movement has done a lot for marketing the produce. There, Sir, the movement originated from the people and they themselves organized it, but in our country the movement had to be organized by the Government for the purpose of helping the people to get out of their debts. That was the one idea with which this movement was started in this Presidency by the Government, but unfortunately in this idea it cannot be said that the Government have been altogether successful. But, all the same, the movement has done a lot of good to the people of the Province, by bringing down the rate of interest even in the remotest villages. To a certain extent it has helped the people to look about and see if they cannot help themselves. For instance, I know there are at least one thousand village societies in which people are able to come together and stand surety for each other for getting money and to see that the money is realized promptly. So far as I know, in about a thousand societies they are doing excellent work. Out of about 10,000 societies that are now in existence, I can say with confidence that at least in a thousand societies, the movement has succeeded and has succeeded very well indeed; but in other cases, I think, the spirit of the movement has not yet got hold of the people. I think it will be possible, with the help of persons connected with the movement, both officials and non-officials, to see that some three or four thousand more societies work successfully. It is only to attain that that I want the Government to co-operate with the non-official agency in order to safeguard the movement. I do not therefore want that Government should give up their connexion with this movement as they are proposing to do, but I want them to continue to take the same sort of interest as they have been doing hitherto. It is true that the non-officials were very slow in coming up, either to start societies or to manage them afterwards when once they have been started. Of course, it must also be said to their credit that here and there some non-officials are now coming forward and are prepared to shoulder the responsibility, but here again, I must insist that the time has not come when Government can say: 'Everything has been done by us and we leave it wholly to non-officials to take care of the movement and we will have nothing further to do with it.' Unfortunately that seems to be the present tendency on the part of the Government. I would therefore strongly urge on the Government not to take that attitude yet. Probably there will come a time, say after 10 or 15 years, when the whole movement can be left in the hands of non-officials, but that time has not yet come and I therefore very earnestly plead that Government will not wash their hands of the movement hastily.

"Sir, the weakness of the movement is due to want of non-credit activities. Either in the field of production, or in marketing or in sales, I do not think very much has been done. The consumers co-operative societies, about which we hear so much in western countries, are practically non-existent here in India, at any rate in the Madras

23rd March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

Presidency. I do not think any society, except the Triplicane Stores, has succeeded so far in that special line. So, Sir, it seems to me that a little more attention should be paid for the organization of these different types of societies which can help in production, marketing and in sales. For these things, it is necessary that Government should take the initiative again, as there is no non-official agency which can undertake such work at the present moment. For instance, the weavers of the Province organized themselves into societies and every one of them has been a failure; the difficulty in their case was the finding of suitable markets for their produce. Recently, a society has been started in Salem in which the Government undertook the responsibility of supplying an officer for marketing purposes, but I do not know how far that particular society has succeeded. What I want to impress is that a number of experts should be trained for the purpose of helping people to find a market for their goods and also for helping people in special societies like sale societies, in societies of producers and such like. These things cannot be done at the present moment by non-official agencies. The business of training people to start these societies is a responsibility which cannot be taken up by non-officials. At least, at this stage, the Government ought to take initiative and train the people for such work.

"The last point I wish to mention is the question of audit, about which I and the present Head of the Department do not agree. Audit is the only function which the Government is doing at the present moment and they have given up supervision and have practically given up inspection. Of course they still have inspection work in few cases, but that does not go very far. They themselves say it is for the financing banks to undertake that work. Having given up all these things, the only thing they do is audit. Now, they want to wash their hands of this as well. The present Registrar has his own views in regard to the audit of societies. He wants to see how far in each district, not only in the case of limited liability societies but also in the case of unlimited liabilty societies, the accounts of those societies should be audited by independent audit unions. (The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan: 'It is to your benefit.') The hon. Minister says it is for our benefit. I strongly dissent from him in this view. It is not for our benefit. If even this work of audit is to be given up by Government, the very little prestige, and also the very little security that we feel in the movement will be gone. I hope the hon. Minister will think twice before he agrees with the Head of the Department and gives effect to his proposal to leave the work of audit to independent audit unions. As I said, we are in a very critical time and various institutions are being scrapped or are being brought into existence. No doubt there will be enthusiasts both for scrapping as well as for bringing into existence new institutions. It may be easy to destroy a thing, but when you destroy it before something else has taken its place to do its functions, you will be committing a great blunder. As I said yesterday, so far as the actual working of the movement is concerned, it depends upon supervision and this is being done by the supervising

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [23rd March 1932

unions. As regards the abolition of the federations, personally I should think that it is for each district to decide whether a federation ought to exist or not. So far as the unions are concerned, I am certain, if the unions go, there is no other body to take their place. Before a definite policy is undertaken by the Government to wipe out the unions, I appeal to the hon. Minister to consider the question very carefully before he decides on their abolition.

"I only hope, now that the Bill is going to be passed into law and we are going to have some sort of interest in this movement, that the hon. Minister, who is the father of the Bill, will see that it is properly administered. I also hope that he will take more interest in the movement, study the questions thoroughly and see that the movement is successfully worked.

"With these words, I whole-heartily support the motion for passing the Bill into law."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM:—" Mr. President, Sir, no doubt I was one of those who welcomed the introduction of this amendment Act; but I am sorry to say that the co-operators of this Province have been disappointed. I cannot say that this amendment Act is in any way an advance over the previous Act. At a time when any popular movement like this should be completely de-officialized, it has been completely officialized. The Registrar of Co-operative Societies has been given extraordinary powers and these co-operative societies have been placed on a level with the local boards. I therefore cannot congratulate anyone on the passing of this amendment Act. I can only say that some deficiencies have been rectified here and there. It is a matter of regret that the penal provisions and those relating to the surcharge have been embodied in the Bill much against the opposition of organized institutions like the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union and the Bankers' Conference. Every one of the co-operators have urged upon the Government that the penal provisions ought not to be introduced into this amendment Act.

"A regrettable feature in the Co-operative Amendment Act is the want of co-operative spirit. This movement has been started with a view to the fostering of co-operative spirit. But now we have to deal with officials armed with extraordinary powers. Instead of being friends, philosophers and guides, they have become the officers who are to run the administration. Certainly this is a thing which the co-operators do not want. If there are overdues, they are much more due to the economic depression and the indifferent and detrimental attitude of the societies than to want of official control or anything like that. My view is that the present Act does not conduce to the harmonious working of the Co-operative movement and it has in no way been an improvement over the last enactment. I do not mean to say that the present Registrar of Co-operative Societies is going to give effect to

every one of the amendments. I know he is a generous-minded gentleman who will always administer justice—justice tempered with mercy. He knows how to carry on the administration without in any way impeding the co-operative movement. But the responsibility lies on the hon. the Minister in charge of this portfolio who will have to assume the role of the friend, philosopher and guide to the movement. There are different schools of thought about the various institutions now in existence—the Federations, Central Banks and the Provincial Co-operative Union and so on and my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, has kindly pointed out that every district will have to decide its own needs. But anyhow, the immediate danger seems to be the abolition of the unions and this is injurious to the co-operative movement."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Mr. President, Sir, I wish to associate myself with the encomiums that have been poured on the hon. the Second Minister by the esteemed Friend, the Member from Coimbatore, Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar. In this connexion, I only wish to point out to the hon. Minister that there is no provision in the Act for securing the co-operation of non-official agencies in the districts. Therefore I should like to request the hon. Minister to take care to see that non-officials in the districts are consulted in all matters concerning the working of this Act. The hon. Minister paid a glowing tribute to my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, for the service that he has rendered to the Select Committee on this Bill. Sir, as a Member of the Select Committee, I can vouch for the fact that he was of immense use to the Members of the Select Committee and, but for his help and the keen interest that he took, it would not have been possible for the Select Committee to have gone through this Bill as expeditiously as it had done and enabled the hon. Minister to have it passed into law this day. Once again, I congratulate the hon. Minister on the way in which he has managed to get this Bill passed into law."

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I thank once again my hon. Friends who had helped this Bill through this House. I may assure my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, that all the valuable suggestions he has made in the direction of securing the co-operation of non-officials will be carefully considered by the Government."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

'*that the Madras Co-operative Societies Bill (Bill No. 4 of 1931) be passed into law*'."

The motion was carried and the Bill was passed into law.

VIII.—THE MADRAS COTTON CONTROL BILL.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the Cotton Transport Bill (Bill No. 3 of 1932) as amended by the Select Committee be taken into consideration*'."

* Printed as Appendix II on pages 624—628 infra.

[23rd March 1932

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I second it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Mr. President, Sir, I move—

' *that the consideration of this Bill be postponed* '.

" I have to state that I have valid reasons for making this motion. As the House is aware, this Bill was first published on the 1st of this month in the *Fort St. George Gazette* and then it was brought before this House. A Select Committee was appointed to consider the Bill on the 8th of this month. Thus, it will be seen that this House is expected to know what exactly is in the public mind about this subject in the course of three weeks and to give its opinion with regard to the provisions of the Bill. The further drawback is with regard to the publicity given to the Bill—it was only published in the English language. I am not sure if even those who are concerned with this Bill and who know English have come to know about these provisions of the Bill in time to give their opinions on them. It is very important the provisions of the Bill should be published in Tamil. Most of the persons who are affected by the provisions of this Bill are those who cannot understand the English language and who would have certainly understood the subject if the Bill had been published in Tamil also.

" The other thing is this, Sir: I find that under this Bill it is only the manufacturers that have been consulted. It is their interests that are safeguarded rather than the interests of the cotton growers of a particular kind of cotton. This Bill seeks to penalize the growing of a certain kind of cotton called *pulichai*. I admit, Sir, that the growing of this cotton in large quantities is detrimental to the growth of pure cotton of the *karunganni* kind. The fact remains that, however laudable the object of the Bill may be, it is certainly detrimental to the interests of those people who are growing the inferior sort of cotton. The growers of this particular kind of cotton ought to be given sufficient time so that they may dispose of their existing stocks. Even though the Government are anxious to see that the superior kind of cotton is encouraged, there is no reason why sufficient notice should not be given to the growers of inferior kind of cotton. If no such notice or time is given to them to dispose of their stocks, they will be put to a good deal of financial loss. These are the reasons why I have moved that the consideration of the Bill be postponed so that the Bill might be published in Tamil and that people who are affected might express their opinions on it and might be prepared to meet the situation that will be created by the Bill coming into force.

" I am second to none in appreciating the object of this Bill. It is necessary that we should encourage the growth of superior cotton and this will be in the economic interests of the Province; but as legislation which is hurried through does affect a very large section of the population, I have thought it better to have the consideration of the Bill postponed."

Mr. G. Simhachalam seconded the motion.

23rd March 1932]

* Mr. K. Koti Reddi :—" Mr. President, Sir, I agree with the 2-
representative for the City of Madras that there is no real urgency p.
for rushing through this Bill. It is only so late as the 19th instant the Select Committee considered this Bill and published its report, and some of us got a copy of the report of the Select Committee only yesterday. I really do not know where the urgency lies. We do not know whether this variety of cotton is produced only in the Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts or whether it is produced also in any other district. So time should really be given to the public to consider whether it is in the public interest to prohibit altogether the cultivation of *pulichai*, and whether it would not suffice if *pulichai* was prohibited from being mixed with any useful variety of cotton. I don't really see where the necessity for rushing through the Bill lies without giving the public an opportunity of considering the implication of the proposed measure. Therefore, I hope Government will see its way to postpone the consideration of this Bill."

* Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" Sir, when this Bill was referred to the Select Committee, I was one of those who took the view in the Select Committee that there should not be an interference with the individual liberty of the cultivator. I faced the proceedings of the Select Committee with this assumption and to the end I saw that this interference with the individual liberty should be avoided at all costs. This question of the prohibition of the admixture of the inferior cotton with other kinds of cotton is not merely a provincial question, for our attention has been drawn to the recommendation of the Indian Central Cotton Committee on this subject. And it too seems to be of the opinion that early steps should be taken for the prevention of the admixture of inferior kind of cotton with the superior kind. Sir, hon. Members of this House, I dare say, know that certain types of cotton cultivated in Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts have got a very good market and they have a very good reputation in the market, and it is in order to protect the kind of cotton that is at present having a large market, a measure of the present kind is introduced in the House. The Central Cotton Committee is also of this opinion. Sir, I share the views of Mr. Koti Reddi when he said that it was not known whether it was the idea of the Government that only one particular kind of cotton should be cultivated by the ryots. The Bill, as it was originally before this House, wanted power to be conferred upon the Department of Agriculture, or rather I should say, Government to prohibit the cultivation of any kind of cotton that the department might think necessary to prohibit. But on account of the urgency of the Bill and on account of the strong feeling expressed by the Select Committee, the scope of the Bill has been whittled down to a considerable extent, and as hon. Members will now see, the Bill as it is now framed, confers powers to control the cultivation and prevention of the admixture of only this particular type of cotton known as *pulichai*. I think hon. Members will agree that a radical change in the Bill has been made by the Select Committee, or rather the scope of the Bill has been to a considerable extent restricted and adapted to the immediate necessities of

the case, leaving the investment of a larger measure of control by Government to a later time. On account of the very restricted publicity this Bill has had, on account of its late publication in the Gazette, the Select Committee thought it desirable that in the interests of the cotton growers themselves and in the interests of the cotton dealers themselves such a restriction on the contemplated measure as this was necessary. My hon. Friend from the City of Madras referred to the fact that public opinion on this Bill has not been ascertained. It may very well be so. I do not for one moment say that the publication of this Bill about the beginning of this month would have reached every person whose interest is touched by this Bill. But I do believe that after the urgent necessity pointed out to the Members of the Select Committee, this is exactly one case where public opinion, which after all by itself is only a nebulous sort of thing, need not be ascertained, but that it is enough if the measure is shaped and guided by persons who have some expert knowledge on this subject. It is only from that point of view that I for my part as a Member of the Select Committee was convinced that such a measure as this was necessary. I therefore thought it necessary that this aspect of the case should be placed before my Colleagues in this House, who did not have an opportunity of perusing the detailed literature on this subject that was circulated to the Members of the Select Committee and who did not have the benefit or the guidance of the Experts of the Department. It is to put forward this view that I rose in my seat and with these words I resume my seat."

Mr. T. NARASA REDDI :—" Mr. President, Sir, I do oppose the introduction of this Bill so hastily as it is being done without giving an opportunity to the agriculturists of the Presidency to ventilate their opinion on it. As a matter of fact in this Presidency there are several kinds of cotton grown, and the names of these varieties are not known to many people in the Presidency and even to the Members of this House. It is not known under what name this particular kind of cotton is current in other parts of the Presidency. As pointed out by one of the previous speakers, if the passing of this Bill interferes with the freedom of the cultivator in cultivating the kind of cotton he likes, I am opposed to this Bill. But, as a matter of fact, this Bill has not reached the ears of the ordinary cultivator and no propaganda work with regard to the various varieties of cotton cultivated in other parts of the Presidency has been adverted to and so the passing of this Bill in ignorance of all its implications is highly detrimental to the interests of the Presidency. Mr. Hameed Khan pointed out that, unless every ryot knows how far the introduction of this Bill interferes with his right, we will be doing an injustice to him if this Bill is rushed through this House. So, I do join my Friends of the Opposition in requesting the Government to postpone the consideration of this Bill till it is given due publicity in all parts of the Presidency. As a matter of fact nobody knows about this Bill in the Telugu districts. I request the hon. Minister to circulate the Bill in all parts of the Presidency

23rd March 1932] [Mr. T. Narasa Reddi]

and ascertain how far the admixture is prevalent and how far the Bill will affect the ryot. So I join the Opposition in opposing the hasty introduction of this Bill."

* Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to speak at this stage of this Bill, I do so not because I am inclined to support the motion of my learned friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, but because of my anxiety to bring to the notice of Government certain facts concerning this Bill which have come to my possession recently. They are the views of responsible persons and expert bodies. Only this morning did I receive a letter from certain ryots of the Tinnevelly and Ramnad districts; and it was only yesterday that I received the report of the Indian Central Cotton Committee which contains the views of that body on the measure before us. I hope their views will carry great weight with the hon. Minister. Sir, one of the leading cotton cultivators of the Tinnevelly district writes to me saying that if some of them do cultivate *pulichai* cotton, they do so not with the deliberate purpose of mixing it up with *karunganni* cotton but for some other very valid reasons. The first reason is that in lean years, when 'Jupiter Pluvius' is sparing in his showers, the yield from *karunganni* crop is not sufficient to meet the cost of production. The *pulichai* crop being a hardy type gives a good yield, rain or no rain. Hence it is that certain cultivators go in for *pulichai*. Another important opinion expressed on this measure is the opinion expressed by the Indian Central Cotton Committee. In this connexion I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a resolution passed at the 24th meeting of that body. Resolution 10 of that body reads as follows:—

> 'The Central Cotton Committee approves of the action taken by the Local Sub-Committee in recommending to the Madras Government less drastic legislation under the Madras Cotton Control Bill provided that the scope of the Bill is restricted to the growing of *pulichai* cotton in the Tinnevelly area.'

"As has been pointed out by the previous speakers the original Bill, as introduced in this House on the 10th instant, sought power to restrict the cultivation of any kind of cotton which in the opinion of Government would be injurious to the cotton trade. From the Select Committee the Bill has emerged with this power restricted only to the kind known as *pulichai*. And this power extends to the whole area of this Presidency. An expert body like the Central Cotton Committee have recommended that this power should be restricted only to the district of Tinnevelly. Such being the case I am not able to understand why the Madras Government want to exercise this power over the whole of this Presidency. In the same report it is recorded that a very influential section of the Committee has made a protest against this Government, passing any legislation, as the one now before us, restricting the freedom of the ryot in raising any kind of cotton crop he likes. That representative body of cultivators on the Central Cotton Committee have also stated in unmistakable terms that *pulichai* is grown not for the purpose of mixing it with *karunganni* cotton, but because the yield is greater. You will therefore note, Sir, that its

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [23rd March 1932

subsequent use has no bearing on the question of its cultivation. Whatever that may be, I for one fail to understand why Government should interfere with the liberty of the ryot in raising whatever crop he likes. No doubt they are right in saying that in the interests of all concerned they should prohibit mixing of *pulichai* cotton with *karunganni* cotton and thereby prevent *pulichai* cotton being passed off as *karunganni*. If you want to prevent this, by all means do. Impose high penalties on such fraudulent practices. How can you say that *pulichai* cotton should not at all be cultivated? If supposing a ryot says: 'I don't mind whether the *pulichai* cotton that I cultivate finds a market or not. I will cultivate it for the mere pleasure of it.' Are you going to prohibit him from doing so?

.m. "I shall now place before this House, the views of a third set of persons. In connexion with this Bill the Government have been pleased to place before the Members of the Select Committee the opinions received by them from certain expert bodies. They were mostly from the representatives of the buyers and the mill-owners. No doubt they are all agreed, that Government should immediately take steps to prohibit the mixing of *pulichai* with *karunganni*. But they are not at all agreeable to the suggestion of prohibiting the cultivation of *pulichai*. I will read out the opinions of some of the members of the Provincial Cotton Committee appointed by the Madras Government. There are eight members and each one of them has submitted his own views on the matter. One gentleman says that to prevent the mixing of inferior kinds of cotton like *pulichai* with superior ones like *karunganni*, the Government need not come forward with any legislation; the remedy lies in the hands of the buyers. If they systematically decline to purchase cotton with *pulichai* admixture, the ryots will be discouraged from growing this variety. It is up to the buyers to make united efforts in this direction considering the enormous damage accruing to the cotton trade on account of this pernicious practice. He is an expert gentleman connected with the cotton trade and he doubts whether Government will be well-advised if they prohibit cultivation altogether. The remedy lies in the hands of the buyers and they should organize themselves to put an end to this pernicious practice. Another member takes a much stronger view. He says: 'The department may prevail upon the purchasing firms to refuse to purchase this inferior cotton thereby discouraging the growth. I do not think it advisable to prohibit the ryots from growing this cotton by an Act of the legislature, as it is grown in a comparatively small area.' Therefore you will note that he is of emphatic opinion that Government should not introduce such a legislation. There is another letter of the Indian Central Cotton Committee to the Director of Agriculture. In that letter the Secretary of that Committee admits the fact that there was considerable opposition to legislation being introduced in this direction. 'The opposition to the resolution came from the representatives of growers who were not in favour of restrictions being put on the liberty of the cultivator to sow any variety he may desire.'

23rd March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

" In these circumstances I am still doubtful whether Government would be well-advised to introduce this measure. Further as pointed out by the hon. Member from Madras, the cultivators have not had time to understand the Bill. It was published on the 1st, introduced on the 10th and we are now asked to pass it into law. It is but fair that we should give time to the cultivators to dispose of the stocks that they may have, and thereby save them. Otherwise they will be put to a considerable loss. Having placed these views before the Government I do not propose to express any opinion on the motion of Mr. Hameed Khan."

* Mr. K. P. Raman Menon :—" The main argument that was put forward by Mr. Arasu was with reference to prohibiting the private owner from growing the crops that he likes to grow on his land. No doubt that is an argument that would appeal to anybody. But other circumstances have to be considered. If it is shown that any particular crop is deleterious either to the human body or that it is deleterious to trade or to the commerce of a particular place I believe it is the function of this House to regulate the growth of that particular crop. If it has been proved to the satisfaction of this House that the growth of the *pulichai* cotton would really damage the reputation of South India I believe it is the function of this House to restrict its growth. The next point urged by Mr. Arasu is this. He read out extracts from several experts—I hope I am right in calling them experts—to say that *pulichai* cotton could be prohibited in certain areas and they do not mention any doubt on the point. I heard carefully what he read and from all that he read I see that they all agree as a matter of fact that *pulichai* is an inferior variety and that other cottons suffer from being mixed with this cotton and it is only an accident that in one of these recommendations that Tinnevelly is mentioned, perhaps because it is largely grown there. If the writer was aware that it is grown in other districts he would have said that it stands to reason that it should be stopped in these districts also. I submit, Sir, that the extracts read far from supporting the argument as to the necessity of a measure like this it tends the other way. As far as I can gather, there is a concensus of opinion that *pulichai* should not be grown at any rate not placed in the market.

" Then, another suggestion made by Mr. Arasu was that it should be left to the buyers to so combine as not to buy these crops and such combinations would duly result in discouraging the growth of this cotton. Finally it may come to that. But if the crops were allowed to be grown and then if the buyers combine and don't purchase the crops the ryots would find themselves in a very bad position if the solution is left in the hands of the buyers. If the Legislature steps in and prohibits the cultivation of such a crop, these cultivators will not proceed to cultivate and lose money on it. I submit therefore there is absolutely nothing like prohibition. The main question is, is the cultivation of this cotton injurious to the trade of this Presidency and if it is satisfactorily shown, as a matter of fact, the reputation of other

long staple cotton like *cambodia* and *karunganni* in Tinnevelly, Coimbatore and Ramnad suffer from admixture of this cotton whether it is not better to stop the cultivation of this cotton altogether. It has been asked that things will adjust themselves and why not allow this cotton to grow. If once trade reputation is lost and I put this forward prominently to the Members of this House if once trade reputation is lost it is very very difficult to set it back afterwards. If the idea that the cotton coming from these districts will always be mixed gains ground, then the cotton trade will be ruined. I submit that it is necessary to take time by the forelock and see that the admixture is not made. The best course therefore is to have this legislation. I have not met any representatives either from Coimbatore or Tinnevelly or other places where the crop is grown who say that there is no necessity for this legislation, that there is no necessity for carrying this as speedily as possible. Unless the parties who know more about this do come forward and say that there ought to be more publicity and protest against this measure, I am not prepared to say that the matter is wrong. I would therefore recommend that the Bill be proceeded with and be passed into law."

* Mr. S. H. SLATER:—" Mr. President, Sir, we have listened to indications of a good deal of leniency and change of mind on the part of hon. Members as regards the justification for a measure which was introduced last week and my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, has been engaged in a somewhat serious study of the possibilities of this Bill on lines which appear to change almost daily. He has apparently been holding a series of ryots' darbars in order to ascertain whether he is or is not justified in proceeding on the lines which were set forth in the Select Committee. Well, Sir, his conscience has, it seems, been pricked. But perhaps what has fallen from my hon. Friend from the West Coast will make him feel that some of his uneasiness was unnecessary and misplaced and recognize that we shall not be inflicting any unfair hardship or discrimination in this matter if we take and exercise the power of preventing a small number of individuals from benefiting themselves at the expense of a vast and important trade. Now, Sir, there are two points in Mr. Arasu's speech to which I should like to refer. One apprehension which he expressed is with regard to the scope of the Bill, namely, that it is too wide with regard to the area. I think he referred to a communication from the Central Cotton Committee in which it was urged that the scope of the Bill should be restricted to the Tinnevelly district.

15. " That is not a very important point. The boundaries of districts
.m may change, and the limits of cultivation may very easily spread from one district to the next district and in course of time to adjoining districts and so on. It is really only a question of words. Moreover, we must remember that, though the Bill as it stands does no doubt apply to the Presidency as a whole, Government will apply it by means of notification only to specified areas. He also raised the question whether in order to achieve the result, it is necessary to prohibit cultivation. While on this point, I may again refer to the speech made by my hon.

23rd March 1932] [Mr. S. H. Slater]

Friend, Mr. Raman Menon. He pointed out that it would be no advantage to the cultivator to be permitted to cultivate such cotton because he will not find any purchaser for his wares. If it is not bought, what will he do with it? He cannot eat it. We know that it is used only for the purpose of mixing it with superior kinds of cotton, and it is for that reason that we must restrict cultivation also.

"Then, Sir, referring to what was said by the Mover and one or two other hon. Members as to the omission to publish this Bill in the vernacular, I think I may say that the Government share to the full any regret expressed in that connexion. But the fact is that those primarily concerned would not, in spite of publication, be able to affect the passage of this Bill into law. In this matter there can be only two sets of opinions, viz., that of those who are cultivators and hence affected by the proposed restriction and, on the other hand, that of those who represent the best interests of the trade. Even if six months' time were allowed for the purpose of collecting public opinion—the opinions of those who are affected—it would not affect the issue. There can be no question as to which opinion must prevail. There is a strong feeling that a high standard must be set up in this matter so that the interests of the country may be protected. That must determine our decision and the fact that our action may affect the immediate and narrow interests of a few persons should not deflect the Government from steadfastly pursuing their aim of trying to improve the cotton trade in general."

* Mr. M. DEVADASAN:—"Mr. President, Sir, coming from the Tinnevelly district, I want to say a few words. My hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, said that none of the representatives of Tinnevelly or of Coimbatore have ever said a word in support of or opposition to the Bill. But here I stand to speak a few words on behalf of the Tinnevelly district. You all know that the cultivation of cotton is decreasing day by day. There was a time when a large portion of the district was under cotton cultivation. Now it has been decreasing, and cultivation of cotton is confined to the northern portion of the district only. Even there the facilities for the growth of cotton are not so great as they once were. A large portion of the district is dependent upon the north-east monsoon, and cotton is not cultivated if the monsoon does not set in time. People cultivate some one or other species of cotton according to the circumstances of the place. My friend, Mr. Arasu, said that he received a communication from one of the citizens of Tinnevelly saying that karunganni cannot be cultivated if there is not sufficient supply of water or sufficient facilities for such cultivation. As we all know in the case of paddy some crops are cultivated in one place according to the facilities of water there. There are short crops as well as long crops. If there is plenty of water, we raise a long crop and if there is not enough water, we raise a short crop. In the same way, in certain parts of Tinnevelly one crop of cotton is preferred to another according to the conditions of the place. Now, to introduce a Bill of this kind and restrict cultivation of *pulichai* means that you are unnecessarily interfering with the liberty of the citizens. As you all know, there is an

[Mr. M. Devadasan] [23rd March 1932

economic depression facing the country and the restriction will deal a blow upon the ryots. At one time the Tinnevelly cotton was considered the best. That may be the opinion even now. It was in great demand and has still been in demand as in days of yore. The people do not complain against the admixture of *pulichai* with *karunganni*. There is no reason for the introduction of the Bill. I wish to point out for the consideration of the House that if we rush through this Bill it will affect many people. The Bill as originally introduced did not make any reference to Tinnevelly cotton. *Pulichai* is cultivated in Tinnevelly as well as in Ramnad. So the people in those places will be affected. As my hon. Friend, Mr. Arasu, said, the remedy lies in the hands of the buyer as he can refrain from buying cotton adulterated with *pulichai*. As you all know a large number of articles are being sold every day which are not genuine. You have waste silk, genuine silk and imitation silk. These are being sold every day and what measure has been adopted by the Government to check the spurious silks, and save people from being deceived? The cultivation of any cotton, either *pulichai* or any variety is not harmful to the public or to the Government. That is why I say the introduction of this Bill may largely endanger individual liberty. I find there are penal clauses introduced in the Bill. The Bill seeks to penalize people who cultivate any cotton wittingly or unwittingly, for the purpose of making a livelihood. It may be difficult to find out whether there has been an admixture of *pulichai* cotton with *karunganni* and no officer appointed by the Government can detect it with care and caution. The result may be that some innocent people will be brought to book and punished. Our country is not so well advanced as to have a Bill of this kind. There are so many things being done and we still tolerate them, and if we introduce a Bill of this kind without giving an opportunity to the people to state their views, we shall be adding to the hardships of the people. But if the Government are bent upon introducing this Bill and passing it into law, I wish the hon. Minister will reconsider it if people make an agitation against the Bill and rectify the defects of the Bill."

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—"Mr. President, my friend, Mr. Hameed Khan, wanted that the consideration of this Bill should be postponed, for two reasons; one is that this Bill was not published in the Gazette in the vernacular, chiefly Tamil, and the second is that enough notice has not been given to the ryots concerned. As for the first point, the Development Secretary has pointed out that it was unfortunate and regrettable that the Bill was not published in the vernaculars and added that in not doing so it will not in any way affect the interests of the ryots adversely. As for want of notice, I may say that after all the cultivation season starts only in September and there is plenty of time meanwhile for the ryots likely to be affected by this Bill to make other arrangements for the cultivation of other kinds of cotton.

30 "As you are aware, Sir, under the Bill the Government wanted to
a. take powers with a view to prohibit cultivation, possession and mixture of any cotton which in their opinion is likely to affect the reputation

23rd March 1932] [Mr. P. T. Rajan]

or value of the *karunganni* cotton. The Bill was referred to the Select Committee and the Members of the Select Committee wanted that some more time should be given because they should be given an opportunity to study the effect which it might have on the ryots. It was pointed out to them that, though the Government wanted to take general powers, the immediate idea was to limit the scope of the Bill to *pulichai* cotton. With this view the Director of Agriculture was called in to enlighten the Members of the Committee about the *pulichai* cotton. The Director informed them that *pulichai* was imported from Bihar and Orissa some 15 or 16 years ago and that it was not an indigenous cotton and that the cultivation of such a cotton by itself had no value whatsoever unless it was mixed with *karunganni*. As *pulichai* by itself had no value it was suggested that its cultivation should be prohibited and the Members of the Committee agreed to it. In this connexion my friends, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar and Captain Winter, corroborated the statement made by the Director of Agriculture. In the face of that agreement I was surprised to see that hon. Members are asking that more time should be given.

"I say, Sir, that there will be plenty of time from now onwards so that the ryots in parts in which the *pulichai* cotton is grown may take the necessary steps to grow other varieties of cotton than *pulichai*.

"Secondly I may say that, as far as the disposal of *pulichai* cotton and other things connected with it are concerned, I am quite sure that the Director of Agriculture will not be quite so strict at least in the first few months in enforcing the provisions of this Bill. In course of time the very prohibition of the cultivation of this *pulichai* will remove all the incidental difficulties mentioned by hon. Members of the House.

"I hope that, in view of the fact that *pulichai* has no value by itself and that the scope of this Bill is restricted to this variety and that delay in taking effective measures will damage the reputation of karunganni, my hon. Friend will withdraw his motion that the consideration of the Bill be postponed."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I point out with your permission, Sir, that the original Bill was published on the 1st March this year and it is just 23 days, and the Select Committee submitted their report only on the 19th March. Copies of the report of the Select Committee were received by Members of the House only yesterday. Standing Order No. 44 states that the member in charge may move:

'That the Bill as reported by the Select Committee be taken into consideration but any Member may object to its being so taken into consideration if the copies mentioned in Standing Order No. 42 have not been available for the use of Members for fifteen days or if three months have not elapsed from the date of the first publication of the Bill; and such objection shall prevail unless the President in the exercise of his power to suspend this order, allow the report to be taken into consideration.'

"My hon. Friend, the Second Minister, might say that since the motion has been made it must be presumed that the president has suspended the Standing Order. No motion has been made by the hon. Minister requesting the hon. the President to suspend the Standing

[Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed] [23rd March 1932

Order, and we have not yet come to know whether you, Sir, have suspended the Standing Order. Besides hon. Members of this House have not had copies of the Report for more than 24 hours and further three months have not elapsed since the publication of the Bill. In these circumstances, I would urge, even if you have a mind, Sir, that Standing Order No. 44 should not be suspended. It is in the interests of the public and also in the interests of effective and sound legislation that we should have the minimum period prescribed, viz., the lapse of at least three months between the date of the publication and the actual passing of the Bill. I would request you to uphold my objection."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" When the Bill was introduced last time and when it was moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, I think the House was well aware that the Select Committee Report could not be brought before the House before the end of this session. It was on that understanding that the House was quite ready to deal with the report and consider it to-day. On the understanding that the House was quite ready to take it up to-day, I have allowed the Bill to go forward so far and I am quite prepared, after having allowed the Bill to go forward, to suspend the Standing Order if that is going to be a bar for further progress."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" No application has been made by the hon. Minister. No motion has been made to that effect."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I say that the objection of Mr. Basheer Ahmed does not prevail."

The motion that further consideration of the Bill be postponed was put to vote and lost.

The motion that the Bill be taken into consideration was put and carried and the Bill was taken up for consideration.

Clause 1.

Clause 1 of the Bill was put and carried.

Clause 2.

* The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I move—

'*That in clause* 2 (*b*), *lines* 1 *and* 2, *for the words* " *in which pulichai cotton is prescribed by a* " *the words* " *specified in a* " *be substituted* '."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 2, as amended, was put and carried.

Clause 3.

Clause 3 was put and carried.

Clause 4.

* Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" I beg to move—

' *that in clause 4 (c) in line 2 after the words " pulichai cotton " the words " knowing it to be so mixed " be inserted* '.

" Sir, the object of this amendment is that so far as cultivation and mixing of *pulichai* cotton are concerned, such actions are intentional and prohibition of them is justified. If, in spite of that prohibition, *pulichai* cotton is cultivated or it is mixed with other cottons, it is really an act the commission of which ought to be penalized. But with reference to sub-clause (*c*) of clause 3 which deals with cases of possession or use or trading, no such intention can be presumed. What really happens is this: a trader or mill-owner orders cotton from outside and he gets and keeps it in his godown. He does not know whether it is mixed or not. If, Sir, by any mischance there is *pulichai* cotton mixed in the cotton that he has in his godown, under the provisions of the Bill as it stands, he could be made liable. But I would point out that it is a well-known canon of criminal law that there should be *mens rea*. Here is a case in which knowledge is not possible. People dealing in cotton cannot possibly know whether it is mixed or not. So, Sir, to make the mere possession or use of cotton, without the requisite knowledge, penal is against all principles and against all conventions. After all, the hon. the Minister is not going to forego very much because clause 3 prohibits the cultivation and mixing of *pulichai* cotton. In these circumstances to go further and say that any person who may, without any knowledge on his part, be in possession of some cotton which may possibly turn out to be mixed, shall be punished is not at all fair. Especially in cases like big mills, and other trading concerns, such things are likely to happen and to make such acts penal is not at all fair."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—" I beg to second it."

* Mr. S. H. Slater:—" Mr. President, I hope I shall not be accused 3.45
of supporting arbitrary legislation, but really to accept the amendment p.m.
now proposed would take away half the control which is considered desirable and which the Bill is designed to enable us to exercise in dealing with adulterated cotton. The effect of my hon. Friend's amendment would be that in each case of prosecution the Government department would have to prove that the cotton has been mixed with *pulichai* intentionally—with the knowledge of the party in whose possession it was found. I submit it would be almost impossible on those lines to give effect to a measure which for good reasons admittedly interferes with a certain amount of individual liberty, with the power of individuals to do exactly what they like. I do not think we can put ourselves under the impossible obligation of proving in every case that the mixture was intentional."

Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar:—" It talks of possession."

* Mr. S. H. Slater:—" Yes. It would be impossible to prove that in every case the man in possession of adulterated cotton does so with the

[Mr. S. H. Slater] [23rd March 1932

knowledge that the cotton is adulterated. If we were going to surrender this power, it would deprive us of half the control which is the very essence of the Bill. Not only is there this positive reason for opposing the amendment, but there is also another argument which, if the hon. the Mover of this amendment considers it, he might perhaps feel less strongly on the subject than he does now. I imagine the reason for his amendment is that he visualizes a constant series of inquisitions by the Agricultural department into all transactions in cotton. I think I can guarantee that my hon. Friend, the Finance Member, will never agree to sanction a staff on a scale sufficient to carry out such inquisitions. In 99 per cent of the transactions there will be no enquiry, no investigation, no threat or danger of prosecution. With regard to those cases of entirely innocent possessors of adulterated cotton for whom my hon. Friend has pleaded for consideration, if they exist—I doubt if there will be many entirely innocent possessors of such adulterated cotton—they will never come within the scope of the prosecuting activities of the department. Prosecutions will be launched only when there is reason to believe that there has been a series of malpractices occurring in some area in which there is a deliberate mixing and adulteration of cotton and there is an organization which is possessing, using and trading in such adulterated cotton. It is only where the department finds there is a notorious and concerted action to defeat the object of the Bill that prosecutions will be launched by the department. I think the House will agree that in such a contingency it would be not only unwise but unpardonable on the part of the Government to relax the power of control which is sought under this Bill. The Bill provides that the head of the department—the Director of Agriculture—has to sanction the prosecution. Prosecutions cannot be instituted without his sanction. I think we may take it for granted that before he sanctions a prosecution he would satisfy himself that the possession was part of a deliberate series of malpractices to defeat the object of the Bill. For these reasons I must strongly oppose the amendment."

* Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Mr. President, I was surprised to hear from the Development Secretary that it was according to him justifiable to punish even the mere possession of *pulichai* cotton. The clause sought to be amended speaks of a person who ' uses or trades in *pulichai* cotton or in cotton mixed with *pulichai*.' The Bill thus seeks to punish mere possession of or use of or trade in *pulichai* cotton or in cotton mixed with *pulichai* cotton. It is a fundamental principle of law that no man should be punished when he has no knowledge that he is transgressing a law. The principle of *mens rea* is insisted upon when the offence is to be brought home to the guilty person. Now the Development Secretary says that even *bona fide* possession should be punished. I can understand such a clause being introduced in legislation which affects the revenues of the Government, such as the Sea and Land Customs Acts, Salt Act and the Opium Act, etc. But in cases where the revenues of the Crown are not affected and where a Bill is passed only in the interests of a trade, I do not see why such a clause should be introduced. Why should not the onus of proof be thrown on the

23rd March 1932] [Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed]

prosecuting party to show that the possessor had guilty knowledge? The Penal Code lays down that a man in possession of stolen property should be punished only when he knows that the article is a stolen property or something which has not been come by, by lawful means. Otherwise he is not liable to prosecution and punishment. I would urge on the hon. Minister and the Development Secretary to revise their views. I strongly oppose the original motion and support the amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar."

* Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—" Sir, as a lawyer I certainly agree with the proposition that the principle of *mens rea* should be applied wherever possible. But it is always a matter of expediency whether that principle should be held to prevail in any legislation or not. There are several instances in which *mens rea* has not to be proved and the onus is shifted on to the possessor to show that he is in possession of prohibited properties *bona fide*. For example, I may refer to the Coffee Stealing Act which is very much in vogue on the West Coast. Anybody who is in possession of coffee except in certain places has to prove that he came by that coffee legitimately; otherwise he is convicted under that Act. The reason for enacting that Act is, coffee is very largely grown on the uplands of Wynad and transported from there to the coast in country carts till recently when lorries have come into existence. It was a great scandal on the West Coast, the enormous amount of stealing of coffee in transit. So the Act was passed to prohibit it by throwing the burden upon the person who possessed the coffee to prove that he came by it honestly. Otherwise he is convicted. I have known cases arising under that Act where this principle of *mens rea* is not acted upon at all. Then again under the Explosives Act a man in possession of explosive substances has to prove that he came by it for honest reasons. In other Acts the fringe of which was tonched on by Mr. Basheer Ahmed, Acts which are safeguarding revenue such as the Customs Act as well as Acts which do not safeguard revenue such as the Abkari Act and the Forest Act, possession of contraband goods is regarded *prima facie* an offence. Therefore there is not much in the principle of *mens rea*. No doubt it is academically quite sound, but when you find it necessary to take drastic steps to prevent an abuse you cannot observe this principle. The Act will be useless for the purpose for which it is designed if you want to observe this principle.

" There is another aspect of the question urged by Mr. Basheer Ahmed. He said it was rather hard that a man who honestly came by those things should be punished although he may be *bona fide* possessor. But as Mr. Slater explained, there is the Director of Agriculture who has to sanction these prosecutions and you can rely upon him not to sanction prosecutions in such cases. When you put a responsible officer of Government like the Director of Agriculture in a position of authority, you should trust him to do the right thing. I do not think that so long as this officer has to sanction prosecutions, there is any danger of honest citizens being exposed to prosecutions. Therefore the objection raised by Mr. Basheer Ahmed has no foundation at all. Although *prima facie* there is a great deal to be said in favour of the amendment,

if we look closely into the object of the Bill and the necessity for the Bill, we will see that the proposed amendment will nullify the effect of the Bill altogether and make it fall flat upon the public.

" I therefore oppose the amendment."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Sir, I am somewhat surprised at the attitude of the Government and much more so at the speech of the hon. Member, Mr. Raman Menon. He is a lawyer and he knows what the legal principles in such matters are and what the implications are of such legislation. There are one or two matters which my hon. Friend probably does not know or seems to have forgotten. The first point is, this very legislation was undertaken because of the fact that when once this *pulichai* cotton was mixed up with *karunganni* cotton, it is not possible to see the difference between *pulichai* and *karunganni* cotton. It is not possible to find out the resultant mixture except by analysis. That is handicapping the possessor to a very large extent. The second point is, the cultivation and mixing up within the Province are no doubt tabooed under the previous portions of the very same section, (*a*) and (*b*). Hon. Members of this House know that the cotton that is coming to the various mills in this Province do not come only from this Province. There is always certain amount of cotton coming from outside this Presidency, from Bombay and Davanagiri. It is quite possible that *pulichai* cotton which is grown in the Central Provinces and Berar may get mixed up and the mill-owner may not know that the cotton is mixed. What is the position of the poor mill-owner? Is he to suffer, because he does not know that *pulichai* is mixed up. He does not know that the cotton he purchased is mixed; he does not pay for mixed cotton. It may so happen that there is some mixture. It is well known that a certain amount of jealousy exists among the mill-owners and traders. It is quite possible that a certain trader may have definite knowledge that the cotton received by a mill-owner is mixed. The mill-owner may not know that the cotton he has purchased, is mixed. Or there may be some anonymous letters written by jealous traders that a particular mill-owner has got mixed cotton. In such cases the officer would harass people. My hon. Friend himself admitted that that knowledge is necessary ordinarily. What is the special circumstance of this case which makes that knowledge unnecessary? Our idea is to stop the growing or mixing of *pulichai* cotton; we are providing for it in the first two clauses; we are saying that *pulichai* cotton should not be cultivated. Wherever in this Province this cotton is grown, you are going to stop it. The second thing is you are not going to allow any mixture to be made in the Province itself. My hon. Friend's analogy of explosives, etc., will apply to the earlier portion of the clause. Section 4 (*c*) refers to two particular matters; one is possession of and trading in *pulichai* cotton and the second is possession and trading in mixed cotton. So far as *pulichai* cotton is concerned, it is our object to stop its growth or trade. Anybody who is in possession of *pulichai* cotton will be penalized; to that extent we agree. We do not say, with regard to that, any knowledge is necessary. I do not ask for the amendment of that portion of the clause. I have allowed that portion of the

23rd March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

clause as it is. I want to make an amendment with regard to the question of mixed cotton. As I have already said, the Government themselves *said that it is not easy for any trader to find out whether the* cotton is a mixture. The Government seem to say: 'Whenever you purchase, you had better see that the whole cotton is *karunganni* only and that no particle of the cotton is mixed with *pulichai*.' Is it fair to take up such an attitude?

"Then what is the argument of the hon. Members Mr. Slater and Mr. Raman Menon? They admit that there may be some harassment. *They admit that the law as they want to frame may do some mischief.* But they say, there will be an Executive Officer who will deal with the matter; why do you not trust him? In that case, why should we have any legislation at all, I ask. We may say 'the Executive Officer may do anything he likes.' When we are enacting legislation, certainly we have to be fair and we have to see that there is no room for harassment. You cannot depend on the Head of the Department; one may be a very good man; the second may be indifferent and the third may be bad. Are you going to say 'they will have common sense; they will be endowed with good intentions'? It is not fair to retain the section as it is and say 'you had better depend on the whims and fancies of the Head of the Department for the time being.' We know that in many cases, Heads of Departments are people with good intentions; but they have to depend upon the reports sent by the demonstrators. What sort of report will be sent by the demonstrators in each case we may not be quite sure of. Are you going to depend on the Head of the Department acting on the report of the demonstrator? It is unfair to have a section like this and to say 'you better risk all these things for we have taken a fancy for enacting in this form; we do not care to know what the ordinary principles of law are.' I hope the hon. the Minister will agree to the amendment that I have proposed."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—

'*In line 2, after the words* "*pulichai cotton*" insert *the words* "*knowing it to be so mixed*".'"

The amendment was put and declared lost.

A poll was demanded and the House divided as follows:—

Ayes.

1. Mr. T. Narasa Reddi.
2. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar.
3. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
4. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
5. Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur.
6. Khan Bahadur P. Khalif-ul-lah Sahib Bahadur.
7. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
8. Mr. M. A. Manikkavelu Nayakar.
9. " Gade Simhachalam Pantulu.
10. " Abdul Hameed Khan
11. " Basheer Ahmed Sayeed.
12. Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
13. Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder.
14. " U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt.
15. " K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar.
16. " K. Koti Reddi.
17. " V. T. Arasu.

Noes.

1. The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
2. ,, Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar.
3. ,, Sir Archibald Campbell.
4. ,, Mr. H. G. Stokes.
5. ,, Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
6. ,, Mr. P. T. Rajan.
7. ,, Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
8. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma.
9. Mr. G. R. F. Tottenham.
10. ,, J. A. Thorne.
11. ,, H. M. Hood.
12. ,, R. Madanagopal Nayudu.
13. ,, S. H. Slater.
14. ,, E. Conran Smith.
15. ,, T. Sundara Rao Nayudu.
16. Khan Sahib Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur.
17. Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
18. ,, G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar.
19. ,, N. Sivaraj.
20. *Subadar-Major* S. A. Nanjappa Bahadur.
21. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
22. Mr. B. P. Sesha Reddi.
23. ,, M. S. Sreshta.
24. Mr. P. C. Moses.
25. ,, P. V. Rajagopala Pillai.
26. ,, V. G. Vasudeva Pillai.
27. ,, R. M. Palat.
28. Rao Sahib V. Dharmalingam Pillai.
29. The Raja of Kallikote.
30. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
31. Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar.
32. Swami A. S. Sahajananda.
33. Pandit Ganala Ramamurti.
34. Rao Sahib P. Subrahmanya Chetti.
35. The Zamindar of Kirlampudi.
36. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
37. ,, K. Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu.
38. ,, Mahboob Ali Baig.
39. ,, F. G. Luker.
40. ,, A. W. Hutton.
41. ,, F. E. James.
42. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. Patro.
43. ,, C. Natesa Mudaliyar.
44. Mr. C. Basu Dev.
45. Diwan Bahadur S. Ellappa Chettiyar.
46. Mr. A. Ramakrishna Reddi.
47. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
48. Mr. H. M. Jagannatham.
49. Rao Sahib V. I. Muniswami Pillai.
50. Rao Bahadur R. Srinivasan.
51. Mr. G. R. Premayya.
52. S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur.

Ayes 17. *Noes* 52.

The amendment was lost.

Clause 4 was put and carried.

Clause 5 (1) (*a*).

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, I beg to move—

' Add *the word* " *and* " *at the end of the clause* '."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I second it."

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 5 as amended was put and carried.

Clauses 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were successively put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN:—" Sir, I move—

' *that the Bill be passed into law* '."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I second it.'

-15 .m. * Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise just to make a few observations on the motion before the House that the Bill be passed into law. Sir, if I speak, I should not be misunderstood as obstructing the passage of this Bill.

23rd March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

" As I said just a while go, I still feel unconvinced that there is any justification for this measure being introduced by the Government. The hon. the Minister, and my esteemed Friend, Mr. Slater, said that *pulichai* cotton as such has absolutely no market value. I do not want to leave that statement go unchallenged. I am well-informed by people who are in a position to inform others, that the staple length of *pulichai* cotton is somewhere between three-eighths and five-eighths of an inch. Anybody who has a knowledge of the different kinds of cotton and their respective staples, would agree with me that there are several varieties of cotton with staples shorter than half an inch. When there is a demand, and consequently a market value, for such kinds of short stapled cotton, it is impossible to think that *pulichai* has no demand and absolutely no market value. At any rate, I for one am unable to understand why the *pulichai* cotton which has a staple length ranging between three-eighths and five-eighths of an inch should be prohibited. Sir, as I have already pointed out, except from those in the cotton trade, no demand for a legislation of this kind has come from either the cultivators of *karunganni* or from the mill-owners, who are ultimately responsible for utilizing the cotton for purposes of spinning and weaving. Therefore, Sir, I take it that the demand has come only from the middlemen, the people who are responsible for buying it and selling it to other sets of people for small profits. I submit, Sir, in this matter, neither the opinion of the producer nor that of the consumer has been obtained. This legislation is the result of the agitatiou on the part of the trader and the broker. Speaking on the motion for the consideration of this Bill, I have read out extracts from the opinions of those whose opinions are entitled to respect and consideration in matters of this kind. They have said that the remedy for this lies in the hands of the traders themselves. It is quite open to them, for instance, to organize themselves and decide whether they should purchase the *karunganni* cotton which has an admixture of *pulichai*, and if so, at what rate. They can assess the work of *karunganni* cotton contained in a particular bale offered for sale and offer a price most favourable to themselves. That is what any shrewd businessman would do. It lies entirely in his own hands. That the Government should come forward with a Bill of this kind to safeguard the interests of those who have no eyes to see, and consequently have no right to exist in business, and that too by restraining the liberty of the cultivators, is in my opinion uncalled for.

" Another reason, Sir, why I think the ryots cultivate *pulichai* cotton is that there are certain tracts which are unfit for the cultivation of a slender crop like the *karunganni* plant. When there are such tracts which are unfit for *karunganni* cultivation, I fail to understand why Government should compel the people to cultivate *karunganni* alone or, in the alternative, to leave the lands fallow. If this Act is passed into law, Sir, the cultivation of *pulichai* will be entirely prohibited. That amounts to compelling the ryot to leave his inferior lands to lie fallow. This kind of restriction is opposed to all well-established canons of individual liberty and freedom. As a ryot interested in the

cultivation of paddy, I may illustrate my proposition. You know, Sir, that there are different kinds of paddy that are being cultivated in this Presidency. There are inferior kinds and superior kinds. There are also different kinds of land. There are certain plots of land on which you cannot possibly cultivate superior kinds of paddy, for instance, say, sirumani or chinnachemba. You cannot possibly cultivate these kinds of paddy on inferior plots of land. On such inferior plots, you can cultivate only inferior varieties of paddy. Are you going to compel the ryot who owns inferior plots of land to cultivate the higher qualities of paddy, which it is impossible for him to do, or else to leave his lands fallow? Sir, I submit it is quite unfair that the Government should think of any such legislation.

"Having placed these points of view before this House, I will now come to make a few remarks on the measure itself. I am certain that this Bill is going to be passed into law. Before it is passed, however, I should like to make a few observations regarding the working of this measure. In enforcing the provisions of this Act, Sir, I submit that the Government and the authorities concerned should take special care to see that the penal clauses are not enforced severely and strictly. The Indian Central Cotton Committee in their recommendations made in this behalf, to the Madras Government, have stated that the penalties proposed in clauses 4, 5 and 6 of the Bill are far too high. I therefore submit that at any rate in the early stages of the working of this measure, the Government should see that the full penalty of the law is not imposed on delinquents.

"Secondly, Sir, power is given under this Act to certain officers to be appointed by the Local Government to find out whether a particular bale contains a particular variety of cotton—*pulichai* or any other variety or a mixture of *pulichai* and other varieties. According to the Indian Central Cotton Committee—which is an expert body on matters like this—when once two kinds of cotton are mixed up, it is impossible to find out whether there is any mixture or not. It is absolutely impossible to find out with the naked eye whether there is a mixture or not. Even in an Institute such as the Technological Institute attached to the Indian Central Cotton Committee, it was found not very easy to say whether there is any mixture or not. For the purpose of finding out the mixture, moreover, Sir, they have to go through a series of processes of examination. And if, in spite of all their experience, the Technological Institute attached to the Indian Central Cotton Committee, should say that they cannot definitely state, from the samples sent to them for examination, if there is any mixture, I should like to know from the Government whether they feel that their officers—who are not going to be well-equipped with such laboratories as the Technological Institute possesses—will be able to find out if there is any mixture of different varieties. On the other hand, Sir, I strongly feel that there is bound to be considerable hardship caused to all people concerned in the working of this measure. Experience will reveal this.

23rd March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

"With these remarks, Sir, I do not like to object to the passing of this measure at this stage. For, I am sure the Government would realize their mistake very soon, and not ere long come forward with a repealing enactment."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The question is—

'*that the Madras Cotton Control Bill (Bill No. 3 of 1932) a. amended be passed into law*'."

The motion was put and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

IX. A BILL FURTHER TO AMEND THE MADRAS MOTOR VEHICLES TAXATION ACT, 1931.

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Sir, I introduce that the Bill[a] further to amend the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1931, for certain purposes, and move that it be taken into consideration.

"Sir, as hon. Members are aware from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, in the course of the working of the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, it was found that certain amendments were necessary in order to ensure and facilitate the collection of taxes and also to set right certain difficulties that have been found to exist. The Act as it is provides for the collection of taxes in the case of all motor vehicles, whether they were used or not on public roads; so that it works a great hardship in the case of persons who keep vehicles but do not use them for some reason or other. In the present Bill it is proposed to omit the word 'kept' and to make the user of the road alone as the criterion for a vehicle being taxed. As a corollary to it, it becomes necessary that there should be some authority to see that the owners of vehicles who use the vehicles on the road take out licences and exhibit them in a prominent part of the car, so that the authorities who are on the road might know whether licences have been taken out or not. If there is a failure to exhibit the licences, we are providing for a penalty for the same. A provision therefore has been introduced empowering a Police officer in uniform—not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector—or any other officer who may be specially authorized in that behalf, in the City of Madras, by the Commissioner of Police and elsewhere by the District Magistrate, to stop the car to see if the tax has been paid and for that purpose only and not to detain the car any further. These are the two main amendments that have been inserted in the Bill. Opportunity has also been taken to have certain other amendments made which are not of major importance, and also to amend the Schedule. So far as the taxation proposals themselves are concerned, it is not proposed to interfere with the rates, or the schedules. I only want to add that we consider it essential that this Bill should be passed, if possible, to-day, so that it might come into force with effect from the next quarter and so that some of the grievances which the owners of motor vehicles are now suffering from, may be remedied. I beg to move, Sir, that the Bill be taken into consideration."

Mr. T. SUNDARA RAO NAYUDU:—"I second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is—

' *that Bill No. 5 of 1932 be taken into consideration*'."

The motion was carried.

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The Bill will now be taken into consideration. I shall put clause after clause to the vote of the House."

Clause 1.

Clause 1 was put and carried.

Clause 2.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" Sir, I move an amendment to clause 2 of the Bill:

' For *clause (iv) (a)* substitute *the following* :—

" *(iv-a) ' public road ' means ' any street, road, square, court, alley, passage or riding path over which the public have a right of way, whether a thoroughfare or not, and includes the roadway over any public bridge or causeway and which is maintained either by the Government or any Local Body,' and*".'

" Sir, there is no doubt a legitimate complaint is laid against the provisions of the present Act; the motors, buses and private cars which do not use any road are taxed; and I congratulate the hon. Minister for having made this attempt to remedy that legitimate grievance. In paragraph 5 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is clearly said :

' It has been represented to Government that the Act as it stands which requires every motor vehicle kept or used in the Presidency to pay the tax works hardship in the case of vehicles which make no use at all of public roads. To remedy this complaint, it is proposed to make user of public roads the criterion of liability to pay to the tax.'

" I take it, Sir, that the intention is that the people who do not use the roads on which no money is spent either by the Government or by any local body should not be taxed. Now, Sir, I do not know the experience of other districts, but those coming from the black cotton soil tracts will agree with me when I say that during most part of the year when there are no rains, the cart-tracks on which neither the local body nor the Government spends any money can be used by motors as motor track. When, as I say, no public body spends any money on the maintenance of such roads, why should the user of that road be taxed for running motors, motor buses and vehicles on that route? I believe this point must have been omitted in the Bill by oversight, or the Chief Minister is not aware of such a possibility in the black cotton soil tracts. I know personally that during the last few years, a number of buses have been running, which do not use any road maintained by a local body or even by the Government but making use only of the cart-tracks, for their purposes. I think it is desirable that the motor vehicles which use such routes ought not to be taxed at all. I have suggested this amendment, Sir, viz., that ' public road ' for the purpose of motor taxation means roads that are maintained either by local bodies or by the Government. That

seems to be perfectly fair, and on that basis, motor vehicles which use only such roads as are not maintained by local bodies or by Government, should not be taxed. I hope, Sir, the hon. the Chief Minister will be able to accept this amendment."

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—"I beg to second this amendment."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—"As, I have already stated, Sir, the object of this clause is to tax a vehicle only when it uses a public road. The definition of 'public road' in this Bill has been taken from the definition given in the Local Boards Act. Now, my hon. Friend wants to make a distinction between public roads merely vested in local boards and those maintained either by the local boards or by the Government. I am sure there will be difficulty in finding out which are the public roads that are vested in a local body and which are maintained by the local body or the Government. Then, Sir, it may not be possible for a local body in certain places to maintain every mile or certain portions of the road and there will also be difficulty in interpreting the word '*maintained*'. The acceptance of this amendment will mean that, if a particular local body has not spent even a pie on the maintenance or repairs of a portion of a road or bridge, etc., in the course of a particular year, a vehicle passing on that road or bridge, etc., need not be taxed, for it may be argued that the local body concerned has not maintained the road by spending even a small sum of money during a particular period or quarter. Secondly, Sir, there are a number of cart-tracks vested in local bodies and which the local bodies are entitled to maintain and which may be maintained by them once in four or five years having regard to the money at their disposal. If you accept the amendment of my hon. Friend, I think there will be some roads of the nature described by my hon. Friend, where buses ply regularly during a portion of the year and yet they are not maintained by the local bodies concerned. Where there are such good cart-tracks, I am sure neither the bus-owners nor the people would keep quiet and not ask the local bodies to maintain them and it will be the first duty of the local board concerned to maintain them. I think the particular case my hon. Friend has in view of such kinds of roads will be only very few or probably negligible. If they do not use such roads for a major part of the year, still they have to pass through such roads to get into the main roads that are maintained by local bodies. For these reasons, I think, the amendment will create a lot of inconvenience, and would probably allow a number of cars to escape on the plea that the particular road or a bit of road was not maintained in a particular year. What exactly is meant by maintaining a road is also difficult to understand, because a particular road may be gravelled and some portions of the road may be metalled. Now it is intended to tax vehicles only when they use a road. There are methods also in which a road can be maintained. If it is vested in a local body or in the local Government anyhow those who use a public road have to pay a tax to enable

those responsible for the maintenance of such roads to keep them in proper order. If a particular local body fails to maintain the road, there are methods in which to make the local body or the Government to maintain them. What we should therefore aim at is to make these bodies realize their responsibility, especially when a vehicle has to pass on the roads, to maintain those roads properly. For these reasons, I am sorry to oppose the amendment of my hon. Friend."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. President, Sir, as I expected my hon. Friend, the Chief Minister, has entirely shown his ignorance deliberately or perhaps it is due to his want of knowledge of those parts. I do not want my hon. Friend's department to maintain those roads. The black cotton soil tracks are such that small amount of money is not sufficient for the purpose of maintaining the roads properly; on the other hand, it will spoil the roads and it is much better if the roads are left alone, for about 9 or 10 months in the year, when there are no rains. Most of these tracks running from village to village, sometimes long distances, can be used for motor traffic. I am sure other hon. Members coming from the districts of Cuddapah, Bellary, etc., can testify to the fact that these tracks are much better during most part of the year for purposes of motor traffic than other important roads maintained either by Government or by local bodies. It is not only a question of few miles, as the hon. Minister seems to think. I know as a matter of fact, there are roads more than 20 miles distant on which buses are running and on those roads neither the Government nor the local body has not only spent a pie so far and it is not even likely that they may spend any money for years to come and is it not desirable that vehicles using such roads should not be taxed. That is the reason for my amendment. I know that the hon. Minister with his majority will be able to defeat my amendment. I can understand, Sir, if he is going to tax every bus that is kept irrespective of its using roads to enable the local body or Government to maintain them, but in this amendment an attempt is made to change that idea, that is, to charge only those buses which entail cost to Government or local bodies, because they have to spend something at least on the roads used by them. But, what I want is that such buses which only use these cart-tracks on which not a pie is spent by public body ought not to be taxed at all, now that an attempt is made in this amending Bill to tax only those buses which use roads on which some money is spent. Of course, my hon. Friend, the Minister is against me and I do not know what to do to convince him."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Am I to understand that the hon. Member is pressing his motion? "

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" I press my motion, Sir."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is—

' For *clause* (*iv*) (*a*) substitute *the following*:—

"*Public road*" *means any street, road, square, court, alley, passage or riding path over which the public have a right*

of way, whether a thoroughfare or not, and includes the roadway over any public bridge or causeway and which is maintained either by the Government or any local body, and'."

The motion was lost.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I shall now put clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 to the vote of the House."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" I have given an amendment to clause 5, Sir."

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Sir, I am opposed to clause 5 *in toto*."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" Then I shall put only clauses 2, 3 and 4 to the vote of the House."

Clauses 2, 3 and 4 were put and carried.

Clause 5.

* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am not really anxious to escape taxation, but I believe the Government has not taken enough steps under the present Act to see that the tax is properly collected. For my own part, during the first three quarters under the original Act, I used to pay my tax regularly, but when I found that a number of people have practically escaped taxation under that Act, I also thought I might make a trial whether I could not do the same thing to test what steps Government would take to collect the tax. So, I did not pay the tax for some two months during the last quarter and was waiting when I will be found out and what steps Government are going to take to realize the tax. After these two months, a policeman came to my house and told me ' you have not paid the tax; I approached your premises once or twice before and you were not in Cuddapah.' Then I paid the tax. The Police are now to be given authority to prevent a car from proceeding if the licence is not exhibited on the car. Instead of that, I would suggest an easy method by means of which without giving any more power to the Police—and sometimes it is dangerous to give such powers to the Police particularly in these days—the Government can easily collect the tax. I leave it to the hon. Minister to see whether my suggestion if accepted is not adequate to realize the tax. That is, the car-owners or bus-owners who are to pay the tax, may be asked to give information to the authorities concerned to which authority they usually pay the amount of tax and if at any time they do not pay their tax to that usual authority, the car-owner or bus-owner must inform that authority in time where they had paid the amount, and if he does not do that, there is of course the prosecution and once there is this fear of prosecution the tax will be paid and there is no necessity to entrust any more power to the Police. It is on account of this I think it is unnecessary to give the Police any more powers."

* Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" I move, Sir, that—

'*In the second sub-clause,* omit *the words commencing from "or who being below . . . " and ending with " the District Magistrate elsewhere."* '

" Sir, the object of this section is to empower a Police officer to require the driver of any motor vehicle on any public road to stop the vehicle and then cause it to remain stationary so long as may reasonably be necessary for the purpose of satisfying himself that a licence has been obtained or not. I quite see that such a thing is necessary if we are to expedite the collection of the tax. Already we are suffering too much on account of the meagre collection of the motor vehicle tax and also on account of the inadequate steps taken and the powers given by the Act for a speedy collection of arrears. Still in my opinion it will be enough if a responsible officer not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector or any officer above him is given this power of stopping a car plying on the road and then make it stationary to satisfy himself whether the tax has been paid or not. But any officer below the rank of Sub-Inspector, if he is to be authorized to do so, will not be desirable in the interests of the public. I would therefore urge that the Minister will consent to omit these words. I find, Sir, that such a provision was in the original draft Bill when it was before the Select Committee but at that time it was objected to and deliberately omitted; but the difficulty was that the whole of the provision was omitted. If any Sub-Inspector or an Inspector had been given this power, that would have served very good purpose. The only safeguard which the hon. Minister has provided in the present amendment is, that the Police officer should be specially authorized in this behalf by the Commissioner of Police in the City of Madras and by the District Magistrate elsewhere. These special authorizations mean in fact nothing and a circular is enough to give special authority to the head-constables or constables. Such being the case, what exactly these special authorizations mean, especially when they are not given specifically to each and every individual at the time when such special authorization is required, we all know. But if such specific authorization is to be given them the object of this provision will be defeated. So, what will be done is that by a circular all head-constables and traffic constables in the City of Madras and other constables elsewhere will be authorized to stop the cars according to his whim and fancy. I strongly urge that this should not be done, as this will create a lot of discontent in the public against the Government. The Government, and the Police officers in particular, are already unpopular with the public and such a provision is likely to be abused by the constables and head-constables and it will create further discontent among the public. In the interests of both Government and the public I suggest the adoption of this amendment."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" I second it, Sir."

23rd March 1932]

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"Mr. President, Sir, as regards the objection to the section itself raised by my hon. Friend from Cuddapah, I may say that his proposal is totally inadequate for the purpose we have in view, namely, the better collection of the tax. As for the amendment moved by my hon. Friend, Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed, may I just explain the Government's position? We have made the user of public roads the criterion of liability of a vehicle to pay the tax. The Government have therefore to take powers to see that cars on the roads have the necessary licences. Having regard to the number of roads, we cannot expect Sub-Inspectors of Police alone to check the cars. In the City of Madras, there is the Traffic department of the Police which is in charge of the traffic regulation and these people may be expected to do the duties of sub-inspectors in the matter of checking the licences. Recently the Commissioner of Police issued instructions to his subordinates to check the cars on a certain day. This was done and there were no complaints of cars being unnecessarily stopped or anything like that. The District Magistrates or the District Superintendents of Police may also adopt the same methods. The Government think that a check is necessary for the prompt collection of taxes and if powers are only given to sub-inspectors to stop and check, there may not be any effective check, considering the number of roads and the cars plying. They consider that when authorized in this behalf, subordinates in the Police department should have the power to check the cars. Whatever may be the feelings of this House with regard to the Police on other matters, I may assure the House that there need be no anxiety of any misuse of powers by them in this matter. After all they are helping us in the matter of the realization of the revenue due to us; and from the experience we have had of the checks that have been carried out by the Commissioner of Police, we find we had no difficulty." 4-4 p.m

The amendment was by leave withdrawn.

Clause 5 was put and carried.

Clauses 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 were successively put and carried.

The Preamble was put and carried.

*The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I move—
'that the Bill be passed into law'. "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I second it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, we are thankful to the hon. the Chief Minister for correcting the mistakes that were made in the original Bill, although representations were made and amendments were brought to the effect that the tax should only be imposed on such vehicles that use the road. Under the Bill before the House, the hon. the Chief Minister has corrected that mistake. It is only with the object of seeing that the Act should come into effect from the 1st of April that we have desisted from moving amendments.

There are provisions in this Bill which are certainly of very great consequence to the owner of motor vehicles and before this measure becomes an Act, we must draw the attention of the Government to the fact that Government should consider the opinions of the House before giving effect to the amendments. Under the original Bill, the owner of the motor vehicle was given the opportunity of paying his tax within the first 15 days of the quarter. That provision has been taken away so much so that the owner of the motor vehicle is expected to pay the tax immediately the quarter begins. Though the Government expect the owners of motor vehicles to pay full tax for the year, a rebate is allowed to the extent the car has not been used—this last thing being a concession shown to the motor owners. But with regard to the question of showing the licences, I think the power given to the Sub-Inspectors of Police to stop a motor vehicle for purposes of checking the licence, etc., is likely to be misused and may result in hardship to the public. We have certainly abolished the toll-gates; but under this provision we shall have set up so many toll-gates at the sweet will and pleasure of the Police officers. It is only in the working of this amendments that we shall have to see how the Police are using their powers. Section 7 says that 'the motor vehicles in respect of which a tax is due or its accessories may be distrained and sold . . . whether or not such vehicle or accessories are in the possession or control of the persons liable to pay the tax.' This is certainly a great hardship. The Government want to take the ownership of a vehicle without knowing who the owner of the car is. I am afraid the Government are in for a good deal of litigation by this amendment. I hope, Sir, that the hon. Minister will see that in giving effect to these amendments unnecessary hardship is not caused to anybody."

*Mr. F. E. JAMES:—"Mr. President, Sir, I do not intend to keep the House waiting for more than two minutes before enjoying your hospitality in another place. (Laughter.) I would first of all thank the hon. Minister for introducing this Bill and rectifying a large number of anomalies. But I would not like the hon. Minister to remain satisfied with the position as it is. (Hear, hear.) There are still various anomalies that have to be remedied under the legislation even as amended. For example, the hon. Minister gives one concession to one type of agriculturist whereas that concession is denied to another type of agriculturist. The agriculturists using the bullock cart have to pay nothing; but the one who buys a motor lorry and uses it has to pay taxes even though his lorry does less damage to the roads than the bullock carts. This is one anomaly.

"There is another anomaly. I can understand a Bill which imposes a tax on the earning capacity of a bus calculated on the number of paying seats. But the driver's seat is an unproductive one: he cannot get out and have it occupied by somebody else. Yet this seat too is being taxed in the same way as productive seats. This is another anomaly. I would like the hon. Minister to realize that he has only taken the first step in a comprehensive policy in regard to transport and communications in this Presidency. I know the hon. the

23rd March 1932] [Mr. F. E. James]

Chief Minister is an ambitious man rightly so, and he has realized many of his ambitions. But the ambition he should achieve and which is near to his heart is the realization of a progressive policy, of road development and transport communication. He will perhaps realize that this is the first step in this direction. We should thank him unanimously for the energetic way in which he has carried out the improvements on the original Act and rectified its mistakes on his own initiative."

The motion that the Bill be passed into law was put and carried.

The House rose for the day.

X.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. [a] *U.O. Note No.* 7421-1, *Public (General), dated the* 19*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 922-*B*, *dated the* 27*th February* 1932.

2. [b] *U.O. Note No.* 3197-2, *Public (General), dated the* 19*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 837, *dated the* 24*th February* 1932.

3. *U.O. Note No.* 3198-2, *Public (General), dated the* 19*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 836, *dated the* 24*th February* 1932.

4. [d] *U.O. No.* 3199-2, *Public (General), dated the* 19*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 834, *dated the* 24*th February* 1932.

5. [e] *U.O. No.* 8732-2, *Public (General), dated the* 19*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 1009, *dated the* 12*th March* 1932.

6. [f] *U.O. No.* 4199-2, *Public (General), dated the* 20*th March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 1006, *dated the* 12*th March* 1932.

7. [g] *U.O. Note No.* 3196-2, *Public (General), dated the* 21*st March* 1932, *with reference to question No.* 839, *dated the* 24*th February* 1932.

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 829 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 829–830 infra.
[c] Printed as Appendix V on page 830 infra.
[d] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 830–831 infra.
[e] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 831–833 infra.
[f] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 833 infra.
[g] Printed as Appendix IX on page 833 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[*Vide* answer to question No. 1096 asked by Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 23rd March 1932, page 757 supra.]

Proceedings of the Commissioner of Police, Madras, dated the 26th January 1932.

PRESENT:

T. W. BLACKSTONE, Esq., Commissioner of Police, Madras.

As Dr. Forrester Paton was the only person against whom proceedings in Court were instituted as a result of the picketing in Georgetown on 15th January 1932 and as he has now left Madras and there is reason to believe that he will not take part in any further proceedings of Congress that have been declared illegal, the case against him may be withdrawn.

26th January 1932.

T. W. BLACKSTONE,
Commissioner of Police.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide Item VIII—The Madras Cotton Control Bill—page 795 supra.]

BILL No. 3 OF 1932.

The Madras Cotton Control Bill.

To

THE HONOURABLE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

WE, the undersigned Members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Madras Cotton Control Bill (Bill No. 3 of 1932), have the honour to submit the following report.

23rd March 1932]

2. The Bill was published in English in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated the 1st March 1932.

3. We met on the 10th, the 18th and the 19th March 1932 for the consideration of the provisions of the Bill and for passing this report.

4. The object of the Bill is to prevent the admixture, with karunganni cotton, the variety of cotton known as Pulichai (*G. neglectum var. roseum*) both in the field and in the factory and thereby maintain the quality and reputation of karunganni cotton. The provisions of the Bill are, however, general in their tenor and they empower the Local Government to notify from time to time any kind of cotton that may in their opinion require to be proscribed We consider that sufficient necessity does not exist for legislation investing Government with such general power, and that the scope of the Bill should be restricted to the necessity which is now actually felt, namely, the admixture of the variety of cotton called Pulichai with karunganni cotton. For the purpose of preventing such admixture it is necessary to prevent the cultivation of Pulichai altogether and to give the other powers which are provided for in the Bill. In view of the restricted character of the Bill, however, we have deleted the protection given by proviso to clause 4 of the Bill, in favour of spinning mills keeping proscribed cotton in the form of unginned cotton for the purpose of manufacturing into yarn.

5. The Bill as amended by us is attached. We consider that its republication is unnecessary.

C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR.

W. E. WINTER.

G. R. PREMAYYA.

V. T. ARASU.

S. H. SLATER.

P. T. RAJAN.

K. A. NACHIAPPAN.

V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR.

T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR.

[23rd March 1932

[Changes made by the Select Committee are shown in clarendon type.]

BILL No. 3 OF 1932.

(As amended by the Select Committee.)

[**A Bill to provide for the prohibition of the cultivation of pulichai cotton and the mixing of such cotton with other cotton and for the prohibition or restriction of the possession or use of, or the trade in, pulichai cotton or cotton mixed with pulichai cotton.**]

WHEREAS it is expedient in the best interests of the growers of cotton in certain areas in the Presidency of Madras, the cotton trade and the economic prosperity of the said Presidency, to maintain the quality and reputation of the cotton grown in those areas and for that purpose to prohibit the cultivation **of pulichai cotton and the mixing of such cotton with other cotton and to prohibit or restrict the possession or use of, or the trade in, pulichai cotton or cotton mixed with pulichai cotton ;**

AND WHEREAS the previous sanction of the Governor-General has been obtained to the passing of this Act:

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

e it. **1.** (1) This Act may be calld the Madras Cotton Control Act, 1932.

(2) It extends to the whole of the Presidency of Madras.

ns. **2.** In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context—

(*a*) "cotton" means cotton plant, ginned and unginned cotton, cotton waste and cotton seed;

(*b*) "notified area" means an area in which **pulichai cotton** is proscribed by a notification under section 3; and

(*c*) **"pulichai cotton" means the kind of cotton known as G. neglectum var. roseum.**

23rd March 1932]

3. The Local Government may, by notification in the Fort St. George Gazette, in such local area and for such period as may be specified in the notification— Power of Local Government to issue notification prohibiting the cultivation, etc., of pulichai cotton.

(*a*) prohibit the cultivation of **pulichai cotton**; or

(*b*) prohibt the mixing of **pulichai cotton** with any other kind of cotton; or

(*c*) prohibit **or restrict** the possession **or use of, or the trade in, pulichai cotton or cotton mixed with pulichai cotton.**

4. Whoever, in contravention of any notification under section 3— Penalties.

(*a*) cultivates **pulichai cotton,** or

(*b*) mixes **pulichai cotton** with any other kind of cotton, or

(*c*) possesses, **uses or trades in pulichai cotton or any cotton mixed with pulichai cotton** shall be punishabe with fine which may extend to twenty rupees and upon any subsequent conviction **with** fine which may extend to fifty rupees.

5. (1) Any officer authorized in this behalf by the Local Government may between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.— Power of entry and seizure.

(*a*) enter upon any land in a notified area in which he knows or suspects that **pulichai cotton** is being cultivated in contravention of a notification under section 3 uproot or cause to be uprooted such cotton, **and seize the cotton so uprooted;**

(*b*) enter upon or into any land, building, vessel or place in a notified area in which he knows or suspects that **pulichai cotton** or any cotton mixed with **pulichai cotton** is kept in contravention of a notification under section 3, and seize such cotton.

(2) Every officer seizing any cotton under this section shall forthwith—

(*a*) make a report of such seizure to the Magistrate having jurisdiction to try the offence committed in respect of such cotton, together with **particulars** of such cotton and furnish a copy of such **particulars** to the occupier of the land, building, vessel or place on or in which such seizure was made, and

(*b*) subject to such rules as the Local Government may prescribe, forward such cotton to the nearest officer authorized by the Local Government to receive it, for examination and report to the Director of Agriculture, Madras.

(3) The opinion of the authorized officer referred to in clause (*b*) of sub-section (2), contained in any document signed by such officer regarding the cotton sent to him for examination under that clause, may be used as evidence as to the nature of such cotton, in any inquiry, trial or proceeding under this Act.

Duty of owner and occupier to give facilities for inspection by authorized officer.

6. (1) Every owner or occupier of any land, building, vessel or place shall give all reasonable facilities to any officer authorized under sub-section (1) of section 5 to inspect such land, building, vessel or place.

(2) Whoever commits a breach of the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be punishable with fine which may extend to twenty rupees.

Previous sanction and limitation for prosecution.

7. No prosecution for an offence made punishable by this Act **or any rule made thereunder** shall be instituted—

(i) without the previous sanction of the Director of Agriculture, Madras, or

(ii) after six months from the date of the commission of the offence.

Trial of offences.

8. No offence made punishable by this Act **or any rule made thereunder** shall be inquired into or tried by **any** Court inferior to that of a Presidency Magistrate or a Magistrate of the second class.

Indemnity.

9. No suit, prosecution or other legal proceeding whatever shall be entertained in any Court against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance or execution of this Act.

Power of Local Government to make rules.

10. (1) The Local Government may, by notification in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, make rules consistent with this Act to carry into effect the purposes thereof.

(2) In making any rule, the Local Government may provide that a breach thereof shall be punishable with fine which may extend to twenty rupees.

23rd March 1932]

APPENDIX III.

[Vide Item X —Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 823 supra.]

U.O. Note of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 7421-1, *dated* 19*th March* 1932.

With reference to the answer to question No. 922-B given in the Legislative Council on the 27th February 1932, the following information is placed on the table:—

* 922-B *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Alluri Satyanarayana Raju and five others were taken by the Police to the lock-up in Veeravasaram on 16th February 1932 and severely beaten in the lock-up by the Police;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Datta Sitaramaraju and three others were severely beaten by the Police of Palacole in the lock-up on 13th February 1932;

(*c*) whether (i) it is a fact that one Thanikella Chalapathi was taken to Akividu Police station and (ii) there beaten by the Sub-Inspector;

(*d*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have made enquiries. In none of these cases were the persons mentioned detained in police lock-up or beaten in police lock-up.

(*d*) None.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide Item X—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 823 supra.]

U.O. Note of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 3197-2, *dated* 19*th March* 1932.

The information asked for in clauses (*b*) to (*d*) of Legislative Council question No. 837 answered in the Legislative Council on the 24th February 1932 is laid on the table:—

(*b*) whether one Mr. B. Ramachandra Rao, the proprietor of a coffee hotel, was dragged out of his hotel by the Police and severely beaten by the Reserve Police;

(*c*) whether one Mr. Repaka Appanna, shop-keeper dealing in Gandhi caps and national flags was severely beaten by the Reserve Police; and

(*d*) if so, under whose orders and under what authority were the above people beaten?

4.—(*a*) *to* (*d*) Orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, prohibiting all Civil Disobedience activities were promulgated at Palacole on the 10th January 1932. The local leaders and volunteers gathered on the main road and made demonstrations on the 11th in disobedience of the above order. They refused to disperse when ordered to do so. After due warning they were dispersed by a lathi charge. B. Ramachandra Rao was one of the crowd. Such injuries as they received were in the course of the dispersal of the crowd. Neither of them was severally beaten.

Appendix V.

[Vide Item X—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 823 supra.]

U.O. Note of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 3198-2, *dated* 19*th March* 1932.

The information asked for in question No. 836 answered in the Legislative Council on the 24th February 1932 is laid on the table:—

* 836 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the fact that Mrs. Kavvali Kanakamma of Tanuku of West Godavari district was arrested on the 17th instant by the Police; and

(*b*) whether she was detained in the lock-up; if so, for how many days and why?

A.—(*a*) Mrs. Kavvali Kanakamma was arrested on the 16th January.

(*b*) She was produced before the magistrate the next morning charged with an offence under section 4 of the Prevention of Molestation and Boycotting Ordinance and was remanded to the sub-jail by the Magistrate. She was sentenced on 18th January 1932.

Appendix VI.

[Vide Item X—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 823 supra.]

U.O. Note of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 3199–2, *dated the* 19*th March* 1932.

With reference to the answer to question No. 834 given in the Legislative Council on 24th February 1932, the following information is placed on the table:—

* 834 *Q.*—Mr. C. Indrayya: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on the 10th of this month the police gave a lathi charge on Mr. Kovvali Ramachandra Rao of Tanuku, West Godavari district, while he was sitting in front of his shop;

23rd March 1932]

(b) whether it is a fact that several people returning from the shandy on the same day received lathi charges from the police; and

(c) if so, under whose orders and under what authority such acts were done.

A.—(a) No. A crowd near Kovvali Ramachandra Rao's shop was dispersed by force on 10th January 1932 and it is possible that he received a blow or blows during the incident. He was not beaten while sitting in front of his shop and no lathi charge was directed against him personally.

(b) No lathi charge was made on the people returning from the shandy.

(c) Does not arise.

Appendix VII.

[Vide Item X—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 823 supra.]

U.O. Note of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 8732-2, dated the 19th March 1932.

With reference to the answer given in the Legislative Council on the 12th March 1932 to question No. 1009, the following information is placed on the table of the House:—

* 830 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: With reference to the last sentence of the answer the Government have since ascertained that the volunteer was quite all right a day or two after the incident.

* 831 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether two picketers picketed Messrs. D. Kanji & Sons' cloth shop in Mangalore on 21st January 1932; whether they were beaten by the police with lathis;

(b) under what provision of law did the police act in so beating;

(c) whether it is a fact they were severely beaten on heads, face and neck;

(d) if so, whether it is a fact that they have been so ordered to beat;

(e) whether it is a fact that after beating the two volunteers with lathis at Kanji's shop in Mangalore on 21st January 1932 the police trespassed into Jupitor Jewellery Mart and beat the two sons of the proprietor Mr. N. L. Pal who were attending their work in the shop;

(f) whether it is a fact that the police also beat several other innocent passersby with lathis on the said date in Mangalore?

A.—(a) Some volunteers picketed a foreign cloth shop in Mangalore on 21st January 1932 and distributed objectionable leaflets. They attracted a crowd. The police arrived and warned the crowd and the picketers to disperse. Some went away and others remained. Those who remained were dispersed by force.

(b) Under Chapter IX of the Criminal Procedure Code.

(c) & (d) There was no deliberate beating on the faces and heads of volunteers. One or two blows were accidentally delivered on the head as the volunteers tried to avoid the blows by the police. The injuries were simple and all the volunteers were discharged from the hospital on the 22nd January.

(e) The police did not enter the shop nor did they beat any one in it. A man belonging to the shop was mixed up in the crowd and received a blow or two during the dispersal.

(f) No person who was not a member of the assembly after it was warned to disperse was beaten.

* 832 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether there were lathi charges early in January 1932 on the Congress volunteers in Cannanore; if so, under what circumstances were they made; how many were injured and in what state the wounded are; and

(b) whether any persons that were beaten died; if so, what their number is ?

A.—(a) The only lathi charge in Cannanore early in January of which the Government are aware was that described in the answer to clause (a) of question No. 833.

Three of the volunteers who were beaten were taken to the hospital where they were detained for a few days. The certificates granted by the Civil Assistant Surgeon showed only a few simple injuries.

(b) No one was seriously injured or died.

* 833 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge on four volunteers in Cannanore on the 8th instant in the maidan opposite to the Fort by the police; if so what led to the same; and

(b) whether it is a fact that even after the volunteers had fallen down unconscious the police surrounded them and beat them with lathis from all sides ?

A.—(a) On 8th January 1932 four persons one of whom was carrying a Congress flag went to the Fort maidan in order to hold a meeting in disobedience of the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, which was then in force. A crowd of about 150 persons collected. One of the volunteers spoke about the civil disobedience movement. The volunteers and the crowd were thereupon declared an unlawful assembly and ordered to disperse; they refused to disperse and they were therefore dispersed by force.

(b) No volunteer was beaten after he fell or lay down on the ground.

23rd March 1932]

* 842 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Gandhi caps were being removed from the heads of wearers by the police of Mangalore since the 8th January; if so, why?

A.—(*a*) It was reported to the District Superintendent of Police though no specific complaint was made to him, that the police who patrolled Mangalore town on 11th January 1932 were jeered at by some youths clad in khaddar. Certain constables were alleged to have removed the caps from one or two wearers. The District Superintendent of Police at once warned all the constables that severe disciplinary action would be taken against them for such behaviour, and no similar incident was heard of thereafter.

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide Item X—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 823 supra.]

U.O. Note of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 4199-2, *dated* 20*th March* 1932.

The information asked for in clause (*a*) of question No. 1006 is contained in the paper placed on the table of the House with reference to the answer to question No. 1009 given in the Council on the 12th March 1932.

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide Item X—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 823 supra.]

U.O. Note of the Government of Madras, Public (General) Department, No. 3196-2, *dated the* 21*st March* 1932.

The information asked for in clause (*a*) of question No. 839 answered in the Legislative Council on the 24th February 1932, is laid on the table:—

* 839 *Q.*—Mr. C. INDRAYYA: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether on the 10th and 11th instants the police set fire to the Congress sheds at Palacole?

A.—One Congress shed was found under construction by the Police at Palacole on January 11th. It was not set fire to.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS.

Thursday, the 24th March 1932.

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr. President (the hon. Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi) in the Chair.

PRESENT:

Usman Sahib Bahadur, *Kt.*, The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed.
Krishnan Nayar, *Kt.*, The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M.
Campbell, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., The hon. Sir Archibald.
Stokes, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., The hon. Mr. H. G.
Muniswami Nayudu, The hon. Diwan Bahadur B.
Rajan, The hon. Mr. P. T.
Kumaraswami Reddiyar, The hon. Diwan Bahadur S.
Abdul Hameed Khan Sahib Bahadur.
Ahmed Meeran Sahib Bahadur.
Alamelumangathayaramma, Mrs. K.
Arasu, Mr. V. T.
Ari Gowder, Mr. H. B.
Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur R. N.
Basheer Ahmed Sayeed Sahib Bahadur.
Basu Dev, Mr. C.
Beyabani Sahib Bahadur, S. M. K.
Birley, Mr. F.
Devadasan, Mr. M.
Dharmalingam Pillai, Rao Sahib V.
Duraiswami Reddiyar, Mr. K. M.
Ellappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur S.
Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, Diwan Bahadur M.
Hood, I.C.S., Mr. H. M.
Hutton, Mr. A. W.
Jagannatham, Mr. H. M.
James, Mr. F. E.
Jayaram Nayudu, Rao Sahib C.
Kesava Ramamurti Nayudu, Mr. K.
Kolanda Reddi, Rai Sahib C.
Koti Reddi, Mr. K.
Krishnan, Mr. C.
Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri, The.
Madanagopal Nayudu, Mr. R.
Madhusoodhanan Thangal, Mr. P.
Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Manikkavelu Nayakar, Mr. M. A.
Moses, Mr. P. C.
Muniswami Pillai, Rao Sahib V. I.
Murugappa Chettiyar, Diwan Bahadur A. M. M.
Muthiah Chettiyar, Mr. M. A.
Muthu Chettiyar, Mr. P. C.
Nachiyappa Gounder, Mr. K. A.
Nanjappa Bahadur, Subadar-Major S. A.
Narasa Reddi, Mr. T.
Narasimhaswami, Mr. D. V.
Narayanan Nambiyar, Mr. V. P.
Natesa Mudaliyar, Rao Bahadur C.
Palat, Mr. R. M.
Parthasarathi Ayyangar, Mr. C. R.
Patro, *Kt.*, Rao Bahadur Sir A. P.
Pattabhiramayya, Mr. K.
Pocker Sahib Bahadur, B.
Premayya, Mr. G. R.
Rajagopala Pillai, Mr. P. V.
Raja of Khallikote, The.
Ramachandra Padayachi, Mr. P. K.
Ramakrishna Reddi, Mr. A.
Ramalingam Chettiyar, Rao Bahadur T. A.
Ramamurti, Pandit Ganala.
Raman Menon, Mr. K. P.
Ramaswami Ayyar, Mr. T. S.
Ramaswami Mudaliyar, Mr. V. M.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. A.
Ranganatha Mudaliyar, Mr. G.
Rangaswami Reddi, Mr. M. B.
Sahajananda, Swami A. S.
Sami Venkatachalam Chetti, Mr.
Sesha Reddi, Mr. B. P.
Shetty, Mr. A. B.
Simhachalam, Mr. Gade.
Siva Raj, Mr. N.
Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar, Mr. K. S.
Slater, C.M.G., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. S. H.
Smith, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. E. Conran
Sreshta, Mr. M. S.
Srinivasan, Rao Bahadur R.
Sriramulu, Mr. G.
Subrahmanya Chetti, Rao Sahib P.
Subrahmanya Bhatt, Mr. U. C.
Sundara Rao Nayudu, Mr. T.

PRESENT—*cont.*

Syed Tajuddin Sahib Bahadur, Khan Sahib.
Thomas, Mr. Daniel.
Thorne, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. J. A.
Tottenham, C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. G. R. F.
Vasudeva Pillai, Mr. V. G.
Venugopal Nayudu, Rao Bahadur R. K.
Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur, Khan Bahadur.
Yakub Hasan Sahib Bahadur.
Zamindar of Kirlampudi, The.
Zamindar of Mirzapuram, The.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Sir, before we proceed to the interpellations, may I submit to you, Sir, that on the last day of the Council as many as 150 questions have been put on the agenda, whereas during all these days there were only 10 or 12 questions for each day? May I know why such a large number of questions is accumulated and reserved to the last day? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" There has been some delay in the receipt of answers in the Council office and hence these questions have been put down for the last day. But I hope to give some more time to-day after 12 o'clock for such of the questions as may not be reached. But I may inform the House that this will depend on the progress we shall make ". (Laughter.)

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes, we shall confine ourselves only to the more important questions."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" May I just say a word, Sir. Question No. 1202 for example was received in the Council office only on the 15th instant, and it was communicated to me on the 17th and the answer to the same was furnished on the 23rd. So I have made every effort to furnish the information as early as possible. There are about 60 questions like this."

STARRED QUESTIONS

Law and Order—General

Letter of apology by Mr. Dodwell, Subdivisional Magistrate, Tellicherry.

* 1107 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Mr. Dodwell, Subdivisional Magistrate of Tellicherry, sent any letter of apology to Mr. or Mrs. Prabhu regretting the removal at his instance of Mrs. Prabhu's *thali*;

(*b*) whether the Government or any officer of Government sent any such letter to Mr. or Mrs. Prabhu;

(*c*) to whom did Mr. Dodwell express his regret for having removed Mrs. Prabhu's *thali*; and

(*d*) whether Government are prepared to lay on the table of the House a copy of Mr. Dodwell's explanation, report, apology or expression of regret and a copy of the reports on the subject made by the District Magistrate of Malabar?

24th March 1932]

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to clause (*b*) of question No. 1053.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) To the Government.

(*d*) The Government consider that it is not in the public interest to place the papers on the table of the House.

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" May I know, Sir, what is the exact form in which this officer expressed his regret? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" It was published in the Press Communiqué, and only the other day I explained it to the House."

The Madras Mahajana Sabha.

* 1108 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any notice was served upon the office-bearers of the Madras Mahajana Sabha prohibiting them from operating upon the funds belonging to the Sabha;

(*b*) if so, under what provision of law was this notice issued and under what circumstances;

(*c*) what the basis for the allegations of the Government in the said notice was;

(*d*) whether a copy of the said notice will be placed on the table of the House, with the ground on which the notice was issued;

(*e*) whether the Government have declared the Madras Mahajana Sabha to be an illegal association; and

(*f*) if not, what the objection is to withdraw the notice issued against the said Sabha?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) Yes; an order under sub-section (3) of section 7 of the Unlawful Association Ordinance was served upon four persons not as office-bearers of the Mahajana Sabha but as persons believed to be in custody of moneys intended to be used for the purposes of unlawful associations.

(*d*) The information received being of a confidential nature, the Government must decline to place it on the table of the house.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) No notice has issued against the Sabha which has not been declared an unlawful association. The unlawful associations specified in the order were the All-India Congress Working Committee and the Tamil Nadu Provincial Congress Committee.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know in what capacity, with reference to these four persons, was the notice issued on them? Was it as office-bearers of the Mahajana Sabha? "

[24th March 1932

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"As persons believed to be in custody of money intended to be used for purposes of unlawful associations."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether it is with reference to the custody of moneys belonging to the Mahajana Sabha that the notice was issued on them?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Yes, to their funds intended to be used for the Tamil Nadu Provincial Congress Committee and All-India Congress Working Committee."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Am I to understand that the notice was served on them not as office bearers of the Mahajana Sabha?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Not as office bearers of the Mahajana Sabha."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"But are they not in possession of moneys as officers of the Tamil Nadu Provincial Congress Committee? And so, is it not practically prohibiting the use of the whole fund, whether of the Mahajana Sabha or the Tamil Nadu Provincial Congress Committee?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"Notice was served on them as people who had custody of moneys intended to be used for the purposes of unlawful associations."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not a fact that they were in charge of the Swadeshi Exhibition Fund?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"May be, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it not due to that fact that this notice was served on them?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"No."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know to what form of money that was collected does this order refer?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"It is stated in the answer that the order has not reference to the money collected in a particular form. It says that it refers to the money to be utilized for unlawful associations."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know from whom the hon. Home Member got the information that the moneys are going to be utilized for unlawful associations?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"We were informed that the moneys would be used for that purpose."

24th March 1932]

Alleged misuse of the Ordinances to check the growth of indigenous industries.

* 1109 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Ordinances are being used against indigenous industries or the spread of khaddar in this Presidency;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a large number of swadeshi shops and spinners' associations are being closed forcibly by orders of the Police or Government or have been so closed in this Presidency; and

(*c*) how many swadeshi stores and spinners' associations or branches of the same have been ordered to be closed and what their names are, to which places they belong, in this Presidency, and under what provisions of law have they been ordered to be closed?

A.—(*a*) No. It is not the policy of the Government to interfere with indigenous industries or the spread of khaddar.

(*b*) & (*c*). The Congress Khadi Vastralaya. Coimbatore, which was located in the same building as the Congress Office, Coimbatore, a place notified under section 3 (1) of the Unlawful Associations Ordinance, was taken possession of in pursuance of that notification but was later ordered by the Government to be restored to the claimants. The movable property taken possession of from the Akhila Bharata Charka Sangham alias Khadi Bandar, Vizagapatam, a place similarly notified under the same Ordinance, was also ordered by the Government to be restored to the owners on condition that it was removed from the notified place.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" With reference to clause (*a*) may I know why the khaddar cloth was seized? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I don't know whether the khaddar cloth was seized. The Congress House was seized under the Unlawful Association Ordinance together with all the property found there, but when later on it was discovered that there were articles belonging to other persons those articles were restored to their respective claimants."

List of cases in which the Police used force against picketers and others.

* 1110 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have a list of cases or occurrences in this Presidency, since the introduction of the Ordinances early in January last, in the course of which the Police used force against picketers or others for counteracting the civil disobedience movement or enforcing the Ordinances or preventing offences under the Ordinances;

[24th March 1932

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to state the approximate number of volunteers, picketers and others injured by the use of such force; and

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to state how many policemen or officials, if any, have been injured in the course of any encounter between them and picketers or crowds sympathizing with picketers?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no such list.

(*b*) Two persons have been killed and four seriously injured during the dispersal of the unlawful assemblies or of the assemblies likely to disturb the public tranquillity of which they were members. The Government have no information as to the number of persons who received minor injuries.

(*c*) None severely injured.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know whether the cases of Messrs. O. P. Ramasami and Khasa Subba Rao are included in the phrase ' four seriously injured '? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" In view of the number of volunteers, picketers and others who are injured, increasing day by day, may I know why Government should not keep a register of such persons? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We are issuing Press Communiqués from time to time and hence we see no necessity for such a register."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In answer to clause (*b*), you use the phrase ' seriously injured '. In clause (*c*) you use the phrase ' severely injured.' Does the latter term also mean seriously injured? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Were Messrs. O. P. Ramasami and Khasa Subba Rao also seriously injured? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, they were only severely beaten."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Am I to understand that they were not seriously injured?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Not injured seriously."

24th March 1932]

Disciplinary action, if any, taken against the Police for use of excessive force.

* 1111 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether any disciplinary action has been taken against any Police official anywhere in the Presidency for using excessive force or for disregarding the law or the instructions of Government as to how to deal with picketers and effect dispersal of unlawful assemblies?

A.—No action has, as yet, been taken. Action will be taken if and when it is established that any Police officer has deliberately disobeyed orders.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" With reference to the incident that took place in Madras about two weeks ago, namely, the beating of Messrs. Ramasami and Subba Rao, may I know whether any action has been taken by Government? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The report of the Commissioner is still under consideration."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know how long more it will take to come to a decision? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" A few days more."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if it will be decided only as soon as the Council session is over? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I can't say."

Alleged drenching of Srimathis Ushamani and Kausalya Devi with coloured water at Gudivada.

* 1112 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that lady picketers, Srimathis A. Ushamani and T. Kausalya Devi, at Gudivada were rendered unconscious by incessant drenching with coloured water on 21st February 1932;

(*b*) whether they were admitted into the hospital;

(*c*) how long were these ladies kept in the hospital as in-patients; and

(*d*) when were they discharged?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Press Communiqué No. 15, dated the 7th March 1932, an extract[a] from which is attached.

(*c*) & (*d*) The Government have no information that the ladies were kept in the hospital as in-patients, but will enquire.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 1001 infra.

[24th March 1932

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know when the use of coloured water against lady picketers was stopped?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "The moment I came to know that that thing was being done I stopped it."

Alleged Police excesses on Messrs. P. Veeriah and G. Sriramulu for preaching boycott of British goods.

* 1113 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether Pinnamaneni Veeriah and Gullapalli Sriramulu were beaten with lathis in Kurumaddali for preaching boycott of British goods instead of being placed before a competent magistrate for trial for any offence they may have committed; and if so, why?

A.—A crowd of persons paraded in Kurumaddali with Congress flags for propaganda work in furtherance of the civil disobedience movement. They were declared an unlawful assembly and ordered to disperse. On refusing to do so they were dispersed by force. The Government have no information as to whether the two persons in question were beaten and they have called for it.

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know what is the sort of propaganda in furtherance of the civil disobedience movement that these people were doing?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "The usual Congress slogan Boycott British goods, and so on."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"Has the report been since received?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "No, Sir."

Alleged Police excesses on the ladies of Gandhi Asramam, Komoravole.

* 1114 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether on the 14th January 1932 the Police took some of the ladies in Gandhi Asramam, Komoravole, in a car and left them in Pullagunta, twelve miles from the Asramam, and if so, why?

A.—The assemblage of persons at the asramam was prohibited and in defiance of this order the women assembled there on 14th January 1932, and refused to leave the place when so ordered. They were therefore taken in a bus and left some four miles off to prevent their returning to the ashramam for the time being. The same thing happened the next day and they were arrested on 17th January 1932.

24th March 1932]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Is it really chivalrous on the part of the Government to arrest these ladies and take them to a place four miles off and leave them there uncared for?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Police thought that much inconvenience was not caused to them by this act."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"May I know whether they have considered the legality of the step they are taking?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Yes, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know under what provision of law they are carrying these ladies to a distant place and leaving them there?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Police have general power to disperse those who were about to commit an offence."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"When you are releasing them, why not you release them in the place where they were arrested?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"If that is done, they will only be committing the same act again for which they were arrested."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know for what reason the assemblage of persons at the Ashram was prohibited?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The District Magistrate thought they would be committing a breach of the peace if they were allowed to gather together."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know what are the particular acts that induced the Magistrate to take that step?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They wanted to do propaganda in furtherance of the Civil Disobedience Movement."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—"Did Government take any legal opinion before they took these ladies to a far off place and released them there?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No legal opinion is necessary."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Will Government consider the legality of such acts hereafter at least inasmuch as a certain section of the people consider such a step to be illegal?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Now that you said that such a step is illegal, why not you issue an order to that effect to the officers concerned?"

[24th March 1932

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I said I will consider the suggestion of the hon. Member; I did not say the action of the Police is illegal."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" In reply to the previous interpellation you said you will issue orders as the action of the Police is illegal. (Apparently under a mistake.)"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" No, Sir, I said no such thing."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" May I know, Sir, whether the legal opinion already sought was confined only to preventing Civil Disobedience Movement? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" No."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know, if this is not illegal, why the hon. Home Member said that he would consider the suggestion of the hon. Member? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" Because an hon. Member wanted it."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" May I know what is the provision of law under which the lady picketers were left at that distant place? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" As I have said, the Police have general power to prevent the commission of offences."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" My question is, what is the provision of law under which the present act of the Police is done? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I have already answered that."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" You have not answered that question."

Alleged beating of certain persons at Tiruppur for not removing Gandhi caps.

* 1115 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that persons wearing Gandhi caps were beaten with lathis by the Police in Tiruppur in January 1932 merely for wearing Gandhi caps and for not removing the same when ordered ; if so, under what provisions of law were they beaten ; and

(*b*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter ?

A.—(*a*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative; the second part does not arise.

(*b*) Does not arise.

24th March 1932]

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" With reference to this case, may I know whether Government have given this answer after making sufficient inquiries? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " It is only after making sufficient inquiries that this answer is given."

Raid by the Police on the Bezwada Khadi Depot.

* 1116 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Bezwada Khadi Depot of A.I.S.A. was raided by the Police and the Swadeshi stock therein seized on the 2nd February 1932; if so, under what provision of law was the depot raided and the Swadeshi stock seized;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Police are using the powers conferred by the Ordinances to molest business in Khadi and Swadeshi goods; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The depot was searched by the Police on a warrant issued by the Joint Magistrate, Bezwada, authorizing the search for unauthorized news-sheets, etc. No Swadeshi stock was seized.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) None.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know if any incriminating books were found there? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I don't know exactly what they were, but they were all unauthorized news-sheets."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether any unauthorized news-sheet was discovered at all? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Yes, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" What is their nature? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have already said I can't say."

Alleged beating of three picketers under the orders of the Circle Inspector of Police, Mangalore.

* 1117 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: With reference to the answer to question No. 972 will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received the information called for;

(*b*) what the information is; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

[24th March 1932

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (c) The information is given below:—

972 Q.—(a) Whether it is a fact that three Congress volunteers peacefully picketing Messrs. R. B. Vasant & Co., were severely beaten with stout canes by the Police under the direction and orders of the Circle Inspector of Police, in Mangalore on 10th February 1932 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that they were beaten on the heads and that after they fell down unconscious batches of four Policemen, surrounded each of the three volunteers and simultaneously gave them beating ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the canes used are as stout as the lathis ;

(d) whether it is a fact that they were taken by the Police to the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, for treatment ;

(e) what the injuries were as recorded in the accident register maintained in the hospital on the persons of the three volunteers admitted ; and

(f) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter ?

A.—(a) Six volunteers including a 'dictator' picketed the shop and a large crowd gathered. The Police proceeded to the spot and ordered the volunteers and the crowd to disperse. The crowd showed a disposition to disperse but the volunteers refused to move and took up a defiant attitude. Force was therefore used to disperse the picketers.

(b) Three picketers received blows on the head during the course of the dispersal but no blow was aimed particularly at the head.

(c) The canes were less than one-third of an inch thick.

(d) Three of the volunteers were taken to the Government Headquarters Hospital, Mangalore.

(e) Marks of sticks and contusions. No fractures.

(f) The Government have called for a further report from the District Magistrate as to why it was necessary to inflict so many blows in order to effect dispersal.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"With reference to clause (a) may I know how far away were the three picketers from the crowd that collected there?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I can't say exactly how far they were."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—"What is the necessity for beating the three picketers when the crowd had melted away?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I have stated it in the answer."

24th March 1932]

Alleged Police excesses on picketers in Mangalore.

* 1118 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that three peaceful picketers were beaten by the Police of Mangalore on 24th February 1932 for picketing the cloth shop of Messrs. R. B. Vasanth & Co. at Mangalore; if so, under what provision of law were the three persons beaten;

(*b*) what the approximate number of beatings given and the nature of the wounds caused were;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that they fell unconscious;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that they were subsequently removed to the Wenlock Hospital and if so, by whom; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the Wenlock Hospital maintains an accident register to note the nature and severity of the injuries and whether the Government will call for the same and place on the table of the House an extract of the same relating to the three volunteers?

A.—(*a*) Some volunteers who picketed the shop of Messrs. Vasanth & Sons, Mangalore, and a crowd which gathered refused to disperse when ordered to do so by the Police. They were therefore forcibly dispersed by the use of light canes after due warning.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

(*d*) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative; the Government have called for information on the second part.

(*e*) The Government have called for an extract from the accident register of the hospital relating to the volunteers concerned and will examine it on receipt. They will not however be able to place it on the table because under the provisions of the Civil Medical Code it is a confidential document.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" May I know what is the necessity for so many men to be beaten? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Because they would not disperse."

Complaint of Police excesses by Mr. P. Padmanabha Rao, inamdar.

* 1119 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received a written complaint, dated 25th February 1932, from one P. Padmanabha Rao, inamdar, Ponur (Guntur district), regarding the assault by the Police causing severe injuries on the following among other persons, for disobeying orders under section 144, I.P.C.:—

(i) Mr. Seshagiri Rao on 18th February 1932 who received over 50 cuts with a hunting whip;

[24th March 1932

(ii) Messrs. Thumulur Sivaramayya and Koteeswaralu on 19th February 1932;

(iii) Messrs. Dasari Katiah Choudary and Suryadevara Krishniah Choudary, volunteers from Nidubrole;

(iv) Mr. Padmanabha Rao, who was beaten when going to his home; and

(b) if so, what action he has taken on the conduct of the Sub-Inspector and the head constable for causing such severe injuries to the persons named above as testified to by the copies of the medical certificates furnished to the hon. the Home Member?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government have called for a report from the District Magistrate.

Alleged beating of picketer Aiyasami by the Police at Madura.

* 1120 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a picketer Aiyasami who was not a member of an unlawful assembly was severely beaten by the Police in the City of Madura early in January and after he was disabled and prostrated the Police Sub-Inspector beat him further when he was lying on the ground unable to move and also kicked him with his boot-heel on his chest and ribs;

(*b*) whether this instance was taken to the notice of the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police soon after it occurred and whether they were satisfied that it was a case of unwarranted use of force and of excessive force; and

(*c*) whether any disciplinary action has been taken against or punishment awarded to the Sub-Inspector concerned; if not, why not?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" In view of the serious allegation against a Police officer, namely, that the Sub-Inspector, even after the volunteer was lying on the ground prostrated and disabled, kicked him with his boot-heel on his chest and ribs, will not Government be pleased to make an inquiry and take the necessary disciplinary action?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I have already stated in the answer that I have called for a report, and when that is received the question of disciplinary action will be considered if necessary."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" May I know on what information is the District Magistrate going to base his report?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The District Magistrate will make an inquiry and send its result to the Government."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In view of the fact that there have been repeated serious allegations made on the floor of this House against the Police, in view of the invariable answer of the Government to these allegations being that they are untrue and in view of the consequent general dissatisfaction prevailing in the country, will the hon. Home Member be pleased to consider whether in view of the public interests at least it is not necessary to hold a judicial inquiry into the matter? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I don't think it is necessary at all. As I have said in connexion with the Police Demand these allegations are generally exaggerated or false."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" Do not Government think seriously that such answers will tend to alienate public confidence in favour of the Government and encourage the people to sympathize with the movement? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " No, Sir, all these accounts are exaggerated or false."

Arrests in Madras during the sojourn of the Indian Franchise Committee.

* 1121 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons were arrested in the City of Madras just prior to and after the arrival of the Indian Franchise Committee at Madras in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement;

(*b*) how many of them are still under remand and how many have been released;

(*c*) against how many of these are prosecutions launched or intended to be launched, and for what offence and under what code;

(*d*) how many of these were originally arrested under warrant and how many without a warrant; and

(*e*) what the procedure adopted was in the case of those who were not arrested under warrant?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" In view of the fact that the information sought for should come only from the Commissioner of Police in the City of Madras, may I know whether the information has since been received? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " No, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know when he expects it? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I can't say."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask why the information has not yet been received even though the interpellation was given as early as 10th March and even though the information relates to the City of Madras only?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " You must remember the Commissioner of Police has other work to do."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Whether it is not a fact that several of these persons were sent for by the Commissioner of Police and then they were told there that they were under arrest and at once put up in the lock-up?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " The hon. Member is giving information. I have said in the answer that I am prepared to inquire."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Was the report called for only after this question was given notice of?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Yes, Sir."

Police

Recruitment of Adi-Dravidas to the Police constabulary.

* 1122 *Q.*—Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) from what ranks of society the subordinate police who are entrusted with lathis are recruited;

(*b*) how many of them are Adi-Dravidas; and

(*c*) since when, have the Adi-Dravidas been recruited to the Police constabulary?

A.—(*a*) All constables and head constables are trained in the use of the lathi. Recruitment is not based on ranks of society.

(*b*) In Madras City there are five Adi-Dravida head constables and 53 constables. As regards the mufassal the Government have no information but have called for it.

(*c*) At no time has there been any prohibition against the recruitment of Adi-Dravidas to the Police department.

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" When all constables and head constables are trained in the use of lathi, may I know with whom is the order to make the lathi charge reserved? Is it left to the discretion of the constables and head constables themselves?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " They always get their orders from their superior officers."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" May I know from whom they get their orders?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " *From the Inspector or Sub-Inspector who accompanies them.*"

24th March 1932]

Number of murder cases in Salem district.

* 1123 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many cases of murder have been reported to the Police in Salem district since the beginning of the year 1932; and how many have been charge-sheeted by the Police;

(*b*) how many cases have been discharged by the Sub-Magistrates themselves, and how many by the Sessions Judge; and how many ended in conviction; and

(*c*) how many are still pending disposal?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information but have called for it.

Administration of Justice

Manner of recording deposition of witnesses.

* 1124 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state— 11 a.

(*a*) whether it is the usual practice that during the trial of suits when questions are put by the court to the witnesses the same are recorded as having been put by the court;

(*b*) why the District Munsif, Tindivanam, refused to record the questions put by him in O.S. No. 108 of 1930; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that when this irregularity was pointed out to the District Munsif by the pleader who conducted the suit and the District Munsif was requested to record the questions put by him as court questions, he called the pleader impertinent and refused to allow him the further conduct of the suit?

A.—(*a*) The form in which such questions are recorded depends upon the nature of questions.

(*b*) & (*c*) The allegation will be brought to the notice of the High Court.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether the allegations made have been brought to the notice of the High Court, or is it yet to be done? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" It is yet to be done."

Measures to prevent leakage of court-fees.

* 1125 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the procedure and the methods adopted by the Government or the High Court to prevent leakage of court-fee;

(*b*) how many cases of leakage have hitherto been reported and what their total amount involved is and in what period;

[24th March 1932

(c) what the number of cases is in which the court-fee has been recovered, what the total amount recovered is and in what period;

(d) what the reason for the non-recovery of the balance of court-fee is; and

(e) what steps the Government or High Court propose to take to collect the court-fee more expeditiously?

A.—(a) Court Fee Examiners have been appointed to inspect each Court in the Presidency and examine whether court fees are levied in accordance with the provisions of the Court Fees Act. Cases of insufficient levy of court-fees are brought to the notice of the presiding officer of the Court concerned who takes the necessary steps to recover the proper fees and to prevent the recurrence of such shortages in future. In case the levy of such fees is disputed the presiding officers of Courts have been instructed to obtain the assistance of Government or other pleaders to argue the question on behalf of Government. The services of pleaders are engaged only in cases where the sum involved is considerable or where the question raised is of general importance involving general principles.

(b) There is no information as to the number of cases involved. From 10th October 1929 to 3rd August 1930, the amount of deficfiit court-fee reported was Rs. 1,36,436-2-0.

(c) Up to the end of August 1931, 102 Courts were inspected by the Court-Fee Examiners. There is no information as to the number of cases in which the court-fee has been recovered. During the period of nearly one year and 11 months a sum of Rs. 80,013-5-0 was recovered.

(d) Government have no information.

(e) All possible steps are being taken in the matter.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know if the period referred to in sub-clause (c) is the same period that is covered by the period referred to in sub-clause (b)? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Yes, my friend will find from the answer to (c) that it is one year and eleven months, that is from 10th October 1929 till the end of August 1931."

General

Heads of departments under the Law Department and their powers to grant leave.

* 1126 Q.—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) who the heads are of the departments under the Law Department; and

24th March 1932]

(*b*) what kinds of leave these heads of the departments have been empowered to grant—

(i) to Gazetted officers under their control,

(ii) to Non-gazetted officers?

A.—(*a*) It is presumed that the hon. Member desires to have a list of the heads of departments or offices in administrative relation with the Law and Education Department. The list[a] is appended.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to Fundamental Rule 66 and the subsidiary rules under it.

Prisons and Prisoners

Principles underlying the classification of prisoners.

* 1127 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the principle on which the system of classification of prisoners is based;

(*b*) whether the principle and the rules laid down for carrying it out are duly observed by the Courts;

(*c*) whether in the matter of the classification of political prisoners the Magistrates act on the instructions or advice of the executive or whether it is left entirely to their discretion;

(*d*) whether classification is decided by consideration of the social status of the person or whether a man's past record in crime has anything to do with it; and

(*e*) whether in deciding the matter of classification persons not guilty of any offence involving moral turpitude or violence are treated like ordinary criminals?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*d*) & (*e*) The hon. Member is referred to rules 747-A and 747-B of the Madras Jail Manual.

(*c*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative and that to the second part of the question is in the affirmative.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I know, Sir, whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to any instances of political prisoners who have been placed in C class this time, though they were put in A or B class at the time of the last Satyagraha Movement? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" The attention of the Government has been drawn to some such instances."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" Is it due to any change of Policy in regard to classification? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" As I said on more than one occasion, there is no change whatever in the policy of Government."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 1001 infra.

Transfer of political prisoners.

* 1128 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the objects underlying the frequent transfer of political prisoners from one jail to another are: and

(*b*) the maximum time, if any, allowed for a political prisoner to remain in one jail?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rules 468 to 476 of the Madras Jail Manual. Under the rules the Inspector-General of Prisons orders the transfers of prisoners from one jail to another in the Presidency with due regard to considerations of accommodation and discipline in the various jails. The rules are the same for all classes of prisoners.

(*b*) There is no time limit in respect of any class of prisoner.

Alleged lathi charge on the political prisoners in the Bellary Central Jail.

* 1129 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was a lathi charge on about 250 political prisoners on 29th February 1932 in the Bellary Central Jail; if so, what were the events that led up to the same;

(*b*) what the number of the injured and what the nature of the wounds were;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that they were supplied only with one set of clothes;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that they were being supplied with very bad food emitting bad smell and dholl with half-cooked leaves prior to the incident;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that they were being made to work on stone-breaking; and

(*f*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) On the morning of the 29th February 1932, 258 prisoners convicted of offences connected with Civil Disobedience Movement and confined in the Central Jail, Bellary, refused to come out of their cells to attend the medical inspection. The reason for this insubordination was that they were supplied with one new suit of clothing and one part-worn suit in accordance with the usual practice, but that they wanted two new suits. When the Jailor and a party of warders proceeded to force the convicts out of their cells, the latter resisted and threw their urine pots at the Jailor. Four warders were hit by the pots and sustained simple injuries. The warders retaliated and some of the convicts were struck. Six prisoners received

slight injuries. Two parties of the Reserve Police were telephoned for, but, by the time they arrived, the situation was under control and their services were not required. There was no lathi charge.

(d) No.

(e) The Government have no information on this point. The hon. Member is, however, referred to rules 385 to 388 of the Madras Jail Manual which govern the assignment of prison tasks to convicts.

(f) The matter is under consideration.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" I wish to know, Sir, what was the necessity for the lathi charge? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I wish my hon. Friend had read the printed answer which specifically says that there was no lathi charge."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Does the hon. Member make any distinction between simple injuries and light injuries with regard to the prisoners? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" There is practically no distinction."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" They received equally? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" Yes."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether this is based on any enquiry or statement of jail authorities? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" It is based primarily and essentially on the report of the District Magistrate which is corroborated by the reports of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police and the Inspector-General of Prisons."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know whether the attention of the hon. the Law Member was drawn to this by one of the editors of a local daily? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" No, Sir."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I know if the visitors have been asked to make enquiries? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" As a matter of fact, the District Magistrate says in his report that the non-official visitor, Diwan Bahadur Gopalaswami Mudaliyar, went there the next day and satisfied himself that the allegation that appeared in some of the newspapers with reference to the lathi charges was absolutely false."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask the hon. Member who is here what he has to say in regard to this matter? "

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" The statement made in the answer is correct. I was there the next day when the convicts apologised."

Alleged beating of prisoners in the Central Jail, Bellary.

* 1130 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a large number of political prisoners were beaten with lathis in the Central Jail, Bellary, on Monday the 29th February, and whether prisoners went on hunger-strike in consequence;

(*b*) what was the necessity or justification for such a mass attack on a large body of prisoners; and

(*c*) whether the hon. Member will make a full statement on the subject and call for reports, if he has not already got them?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1129. About 125 prisoners convicted for offences connected with the Civil Disobedience Movement refused to take their mid-day meal on the date on which the incident took place. They took their food in the same night, and there was no hunger-strike.

Bathing facilities for political prisoners.

* 1131 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the political prisoners in jails are not given adequate water for two baths in the day;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that this inadequate supply is due to the dearth of hand labour required for pumping out water in certain of the jails; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to substitute machinery for prison labour for providing adequate water-supply to the prisoners in jails?

A.—(*a*) *Prisoners are required to bathe once a day upon cessation of the daily work in the evening.*

(*b*) *&* (*c*) Does not arise.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether the hon. the Law Member will see that in cases of those prisoners who require two baths provision is made for them and to have two baths?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"That depends upon the discretion of the Superintendent of Prisons. Usually each prisoner must have one bath a day."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"When there is scarcity of water on account of inadequacy of facilities for drawing water, whether he would provide for mechanical appliances to some of the jails where water cannot be had in plenty?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"There is no difficulty with reference to ample supply of water."

24th March 1932]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether he is aware that in the Cuddalore jail adequate supply of water cannot be had for want of labour which again is due to want of hard labour prisoners in the jail? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" My information is just the other way."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether it is not a fact that there was a proposal to have an engine set up in that jail? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" As far as I can remember, there was no such proposal."

Alleged compulsion in the matter of the wearing apparel of Durga Bhai, a prisoner.

* 1132 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Durga Bhai, now in Madura Jail, was compelled to wear by the Jail authorities white sarees;

(*b*) under what provision of the law was this done and why; and

(*c*) whether the Government have received any representations that Hindu married women of the Brahman caste do not wear white sarees?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information but will inquire.
(*c*) No.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if the Government have got the information that Durga Bai is still in Vellore or Madura jail? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I have called for information. I do not know where she is now."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Are there many female prisoners in Madura? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I do not know."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" When he says ' no ' to clause (*c*), does he not know and is he not aware of the fact that Brahman women wear white saries only when they attain their widowhood and not when they are in a married state ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" I am sorry that the hon. Member forgets the question to which the answer is given by Government. To the question ' whether the Government have received any representation ' the answer is ' no '. "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Probably the question has been altered by the office. I would like to ask whether the hon. the Law Member is not aware that it is against the custom of the Brahman community, even so of the Muslims, to wear white saries in the married state or maidenhood? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. KRISHNAN NAYAR:—" My hon. Friend knows about this as much as myself."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know whether, in view of the custom which my hon. Friend knows, he would see that the ladies are not asked or forced to wear white saries?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—"I shall consider the suggestion."

Clothing to C Class political prisoners.

* 1133 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that political prisoners in C Class are not given two sets of dresses a week although permitted under the rules;

(*b*) if so, under whose orders this is done and why; and

(*c*) what action do the Government propose to take to redress this grievance?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) A report has been called for from the Inspector-General of Prisons.

Diet of Mr. E. R. Nagarajan, a prisoner in Cannanore Jail.

* 1134 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the diet is that was awarded to Mr. E. R. Nagarajan and eight others who are now in the Cannanore Jail;

(*b*) what the reason is for awarding this kind of diet;

(*c*) whether the convicting Magistrate ascertained what diet these convicts were used to before he made the order for that kind of diet;

(*d*) whether these political prisoners have sent in petitions for change of diet; and

(*e*) if so, what orders have been passed and if not, whether the Government propose to order change of the diet in the case of all or any of these political prisoners.

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*d*) & (*e*) Information has been called for as regards convict E. R. Nagarajan. The Government have no information as regards the other convicts and cannot take any action in the absence of the names of the convicts and of the courts which convicted them.

(*c*) The hon. Member is referred to rule 347 B I (3) of the Jail Manual. The Government have no reason to believe that the Magistrate did not make the necessary enquiry before he passed orders.

Irrigation

Officers employed on the Cauvery-Mettur Project.

* 1135 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) who the gazetted officers of the Public Works Department employed at Cauvery-Mettur are;

24th March 1932]

(b) what the pay and qualifications of each are; and
(c) how long each has remained at Mettur?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) A statement [a] is appended.

Restrictions on the use of the bridge across the Cauvery at Mettur.

* 1136 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the bridge across the river Cauvery at Mettur is not generally allowed free for use by the public;

(b) whether it is a fact that the ferry farm of that place has been allowed to exist and separately sold in auction;

(c) if the answer to clause (b) be in the affirmative, whether the ferry renter is allowed to collect tolls even from those who pass over the bridge;

(d) if so, whether any orders have been passed in this respect; and

(e) if the reply to clause (d) be in the affirmative, by whom such orders were passed, and whether copies of such orders will be placed on the table?

A.— (a) *to* (e) The Government have no information, but have called for a report.

Execution of works at Mettur.

* 1137 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what the works at Mettur done departmentally are and what through contractors;

(b) who the contractor for each kind of work done by contract is; and

(c) the rates accepted for each kind of work?

A.—(a) *to* (c) The Government have not the information asked for.

Repairs to the Pamaniar in Tanjore district.

* 1138 *Q.*—Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that in the floods of 1920 and 1924 the river Pamaniar breached on its right bank near the Thembarai village limits in the Tanjore district, and what the steps the Public Works Department, Tanjore, have since then taken to prevent recurrence of the same;

(b) whether it is a fact that the river again breached on the same side in the floods of 1930 as well as of 1931;

[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 1002–1003 infra.

[24th March 1932

(c) whether it is the considered opinion of the Public Works Department that water should be allowed to spill over the right bank to protect the Delta to the left of the river;

(d) whether remissions had to be granted by the Government because of the heavy damage;

(e) if so, to what extent;

(f) whether it is a fact that the poor and affected ryots waited on the Public Works Department officials to raise, strengthen, do other necessary repairs and take all precautionary steps to prevent such breaches in the future;

(g) if so, what steps have been taken by the Government since then; and

(h) in view of the above facts what steps the Government now propose to take to safeguard the interest of the mirasidars?

A.—(a) The Government have no definite information whether the Pamaniyar breached in Thembarai village limits in 1920 and 1924. In pursuance of the recommendations of the Cauvery Committee, an estimate amounting to Rs. 1·29 lakhs for strengthening both the banks of the river was sanctioned towards the close of 1928, the expenditure to end of 1930-31 was Rs. 46,041, and sums of Rs. 5,700 and Rs. 3,500 have been provided in the Budget Estimates of the current year and next year.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) The Government have no information whether any remission was granted in Themharai village.

(f) The Government have not the information.

(g) & (h) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.O.* No. 3194 I., dated 18th December 1931 (appended) which has been published.

Failure of water in the Jedarpalayam channel.

* 1139 Q.—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) how many times the water in Jedarpalayam channel in Namakkal taluk has failed in the year 1931;

(b) the date and duration of failure each time and what will be the estimated loss to crops each time; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to put up a permanent structure in the place where the said channel is branched?

A.—(a) to (c) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

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* Printed as Appendix IV on pages 1003–1004 infra.

24th March 1932]

Closure of irrigation canals in the Tinnevelly district.

* 1140 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the District Collector and the Executive Engineer, Tinnevelly, have ordered that the usual period of closure of all the irrigation canals in the district, viz., the months of April and May, will be extended to the month of June also this year and that the canals will be opened this year only on the 1st of July;

(*b*) whether it is not a fact that the closure of the canals in the month of June will deprive the agriculturists of the benefit of the early freshes of the south-west monsoon and will directly prejudice and is likely to wholly impair the kar crop and indirectly prejudice the pisanam crop also because of its consequential postponement; and

(*c*) whether in view of the large interests of agriculturists at stake the Government will be pleased to direct that the repairs in the canals and tanks should be effected expeditiously before the 31st May as usual?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have not the information but have called for a report.

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—" May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether, in view of the very serious loss that occurred to the ryots, he would issue instructions to expedite the closure of canals? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" I have not got the information referred to in the question yet and I do not know whether it is necessary to issue special instructions."

Land Revenue Administration

Extension of time for the payment of kist.

* 1141 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the representations made by Members of the Council in their Budget speeches last week in regard to the collection of kist this time; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to extend the time for the payment of kist or show any other concession?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government do not propose to sanction any general postponement of kists this year. Remission will be granted under the ordinary remission rules in the areas affected by floods in Ganjam, Vizagapatam, West Godavari, South Arcot, Trichinopoly and Tinnevelly districts. A special scale of remission has been sanctioned for the Tiruturaipundi taluk of the Tanjore district and similar proposals for portions of other taluks of that district are under consideration. The Government have already sanctioned the remission or the suspension of very large sums of land revenue in parts of the Bellary and Anantapur districts; and similar action will be taken wherever local conditions make it necessary.

Mr. T. NARASA REDDI:—" Was there no representation for the remission of kist from Cuddapah, in view of the failure of the crops there? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I am afraid I cannot remember. I must ask for notice."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" May I know what steps are going to be taken in the case of the Pulivendla taluk which is affected by famine? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" We had a report from the Collector of the district that no special measures are necessary in the district."

Alleged rigorous measures for collection of kists.

* 1142 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have given any instructions to the Collectors of districts to prolong the period of collection of kists (revenue) or to collect revenue with less rigour so that there might not be any real hardship to the ryots; if not, whether they propose to do so; and

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to state whether in some districts proclamations have been issued stating that if payments of taxes are not made within due date distraint of four annas extra will be charged to the ryot for every collection made?

A.—(*a*) The Government have not issued any general instructions of the kind, nor do they propose to do so. But relief by way of remission or suspension of land revenue is being given wherever local conditions make it necessary. Large sums have already been remitted or suspended in parts of Bellary and Anantapur districts.

(*b*) The Government have no reason to suppose that in any district any exceptional procedure is being followed. Paragraph 4 of Board's Standing Order No. 46 permits the levy of batta for serving processes and for the distress or sale of property under the Revenue Recovery Act.

Khan Bahadur MAHMUD SCHAMNAD SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know whether it is a fact that proclamation was issued in South Kanara that a fine of four annas will be levied? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I do not remember receiving such petition."

Levy of charges for user of water for industrial purposes.

* 1143 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are levying and collecting water charges in Tanjore district for water taken or used for industrial purposes, viz., rice mills, from a Government channel or tank ;

24th March 1932]

(*b*) if so, in what areas are such charges levied and from what period and at what rate;

(*c*) what is the total realized annually for the last five years ;

(*d*) under what provision of law are the Government entitled to levy and collect charges in respect of water consumed for industrial purposes ;

(*e*) whether the Government are levying back charges for water consumed by industrial concerns in the district of Tanjore; and

(*f*) if so, for what minimum period are the same collected and what the annual amount realized is in this manner for the last five years ?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to section (iii) of Board's Standing Order No. 11-A which contains the rules on the subject. The rules apply to the whole Presidency.

(*c*) The Government have not the information.

(*d*) Common law applicable to ownership of property.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) The period depends upon the circumstances of each case. The Government have no information regarding the amount realized.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether Government is charging for water used for industrial purposes in Tanjore which is alleged to be sub-soil water drawn from Government channel or other sources? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I refer the hon. Member to the Board's Standing Order to which reference is made in the answer. These orders are being carried out as far as I am aware."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the Government have ascertained whether they are entitled to collect charges on sub-soil water? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" If in any particular case we are wrongly charging for water, it is open to the parties to appeal."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether any such cases have already arisen? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—" I must ask for notice."

Price of paddy and coconuts in Malabar.

* 1144 *Q.*—Mr. R. M. PALAT: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the average price of paddy and coconuts in Malabar in the year ending 1931 March and from 1931 to date?

A.—The prices are given in the annexed statement.[a] The prices for paddy are the average of the district for second sort; the prices for coconuts are those of Calicut taluk for unhusked coconuts.

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 1005 infra.

Communications to Collectors addressed by name.

* 1145 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the Collectors of districts that they should not receive any communications addressed to them by name by ryots ; and

(*b*) if so, whether they have any objection to place a copy of the rules on the table of the House ?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the negative.

Public Service

Reduction of supervisors in the Public Works Department.

* 1146 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total number was of permanent supervisors and the total number of temporary supervisors in the Public Works Department before retrenchment;

(*b*) of the temporary supervisors how many passed the probationary period;

(*c*) how many temporary supervisors who completed the probationary period have been retrenched and how many who have not completed the probationary period;

(*d*) what the principle was and the basis on which the retrenchment was effected;

(*e*) whether any of the principles enunciated by the Local Government regarding the order of disbandment (G.O. Ms. No. 1176, dated 18th November 1931), were applied in the retrenchment of the Public Works Department supervisors;

(*f*) whether seniority of service was a consideration for continuance in the service and confirmation;

(*g*) what the principles applied are for confirming Public Works Department supervisors;

(*h*) when a number of service men were retrenched, whether there was any case made out against the supervisors retrenched and any explanation taken from them; if not, why not;

(*i*) whether confidential reports played any part in effecting the retrenchment of Public Works Department supervisors recently;

(*j*) whether the concerned supervisors were asked for any explanation on these confidential reports; if not, why not;

(*k*) what is the criterion for confirming temporary supervisors;

(*l*) what are the rules, regulations, terms and conditions, which were applied in confirming supervisors in the year 1930, and whose judgment was final in the confirmations effected in that year;

24th March 1932]

(*m*) how many engineer supervisors were confirmed before they *completed three years of service from their start in the department;*

(*n*) what are the special circumstances which influenced this confirmation, as against upper subordinate supervisors of approved and meritorious longer service in the department;

(*o*) whether the principle enunciated in G.O. Ms. No. 1176, dated 18th November 1931, will be applied to the retrenched supervisors, and if so, when;

(*p*) what is the benefit for a Public Works Department Supervisor, that accrues to him on his passing the prescribed departmental test;

(*q*) whether this was considered when the retrenchment of supervisors was recently effected; and

(*r*) if not, whether it will be considered as a qualification for their immediate reinstatement ?

A.—(*a*) On 1st July 1931, the total number of permanent supervisors was 365 and the total number of temporary supervisors was 295.

(*b*) About 203 had completed two years' service.

(*c*) About 31 who had completed two years' service and 79 who had not.

In view of the specific terms of the declaration obtained from each of the temporary supervisors as provided for in paragraph 56 of the Madras Public Works Department Code, the Chief Engineer in effecting the discharge of personnel acted on the assumption that the Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal), Rules did not apply to them. But the Government have since issued instructions to the Chief Engineer that temporary supervisors should be treated as probationers and dealt with strictly in accordance with the Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules.

(*d*) Length of service tempered by discharge of the markedly inefficient.

(*e*) The principles were not applied before the issue of G.O. No. 1176, Public, dated 18th November 1931.

(*f*) Yes.

(*g*) & (*k*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule 12 of the general rules regulating recruitment, conditions of services, pay, allowances and pension of the subordinate services published at pages 1386–1388 in Part I of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 23rd July 1929.

(*h*) No. The men were discharged on one month's notice in accordance with the terms of their engagement.

(*i*) Yes.

(*j*) No.

(*l*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the rules referred to in the answer to clauses (*g*) and (*k*). In fact, however, seniority and merit were taken into consideration in making the substantive appointments, half

the number of vacancies being filled from passed Engineers and half from passed upper subordinates on the temporary list. The Chief Engineer's judgment was final.

(*m*) Four.

(*n*) The records of the Engineers selected were good while those of the upper subordinates were not.

(*o*) Yes, in future.

(*p*) None. He avoids any penalty for failure to pass the prescribed test.

(*q*) & (*r*) No.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"Sir, in view of the fact that the Chief Engineer has been effecting the discharges ignoring the Classification Rules, will the Government be pleased to reconsider these cases now?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"I do not think the Chief Engineer ignored any rule in the Classification Rules in discharging these persons who were sent away on one month's notice. Orders are under issue making rules which will entitle people who have been discharged to re-employment in turn. These will have the effect of entitling them to re-employment in their turn according to seniority when vacancies arise."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"In view of the fact that orders were subsequently issued and if they had been issued earlier the men would be prevented from being discharged, will the Government reconsider the case of these men?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"We cannot give effect to it and turn out other people. They will be re-employed with reference to their service as soon as vacancies arise."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"In the orders issued, Government have not specified that questions of merit and confidential reports will be considered. In view of the fact that questions of merit have been considered, will the Government be pleased to reconsider their case?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"I have already answered that question."

Village Officers

Hereditary rights of Village Officers in Salem district.

* 1147 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the village officers in Salem district are not strictly allowed the right of inheritance of their offices from father to son;

(*b*) in how many districts this privilege is denied, and what the names of such districts are; and

A.—(*a*) Village offices in the Salem district are not hereditary and are not governed by statute. There is no right of inheritance to those offices.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 1 of Board's Standing Order No. 156.

(*c*) The hereditary right has been recognized by statute only for village offices which were previously hereditary in character.

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" May I know why Salem village officers were picked out? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" I am not aware that Salem has been particularly picked out."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" It is stated that Salem is not governed by statute? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" The reason why Salem is referred to in the answer is the reason for its being referred in the question. It is only where it has been customary for the village offices to be hereditary that the statute applies."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR :—" May I know on what it is based? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" I must ask for notice. That must have been enquired into many years ago."

Travelling allowance to Village Officers.

* 1148 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the rate of travelling allowance paid to village officers is when they are summoned to appear before the tahsildar or any other officer;

(*b*) whether there were any complaints from the village officers that the rate of travelling allowance was too low and scanty for the men of their position and responsibility; and

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) be in the affirmative, when, and how they have been disposed of?

A.—(*a*) No travelling allowance is paid to village officers when they are summoned to appear before the tahsildar or superior Revenue officers. Travelling allowance at the following rates is paid to them for attendance before other officers of Government :—

Attendance before Excise officers in connexion with excise enquiries.—At rates not exceeding single third-class fare for railway journeys, a mileage of one anna for road journeys and a daily allowance of 6 annas for halts.

Attendance before officers of Government to give instructions in connexion with Government suits.—A single third-class fare and batta at such rates as the Board of Revenue considers reasonable, subject to a maximum of 6 annas a day for journeys by rail, and actual expenses not exceeding 2 annas per mile and batta not exceeding 6 annas per day for journeys by road.

(*b*) & (*c*) Occasional representations have been received. The Government have seen no reason to comply with requests for enhanced allowances.

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"May I know the reason why the travelling allowance of the village officers was reduced?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"It is part of their ordinary duties. Their emoluments cover this duty."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"May I know whether it is laid down that the village officials should walk fifteen miles to wait on the Tahsildars and revenue officials?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"I do not know whether it is laid down in any particular place or not."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—"How is it then that the hon. the Revenue Member says that it is covered by the emolument? Is there any definition of their duties?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"It is well known it is part of their duty."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know the kind of duty and the purpose for which the village officer has to appear before the revenue officials?"

·30 m. The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"I do not think we can limit the summoning of the village officials to any particular purpose."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I know if it is part of their duty to walk a distance of 15 and 20 miles? Why should they not be paid some travelling allowance?"

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—"I have answered that question."

Finance

Reduction of officials and clerks in Government offices.

* 1149 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many officials or clerks who were serving in the Government offices have till now been sent away by reason of the retrenchment proposals; and

(*b*) how many of them were (*a*) drawing above Rs. 500, (*b*) above Rs. 250, (*c*) above Rs. 100, (*d*) above Rs. 50 and (*e*) above Rs. 15?

24th March 1932]

A.—It is presumed that in the category of those 'sent away' the hon. Member does not mean to include those who have voluntarily retired or who, owing to the abolition of posts, have reverted to a lower grade or service. On this assumption the following figures have been collected:—

(*a*) 2,993.

(*b*)	(1) drawing over Rs. 500	Nil.
	(2) between Rs. 250 and Rs. 500	23
	(3) between Rs. 100 and Rs. 250	101
	(4) between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100	262
	(5) between Rs. 15 and Rs. 50	1,674
	(6) Rs. 15 and below	933
	Total ...	2,993

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know what the policy of the Government is with regard to those people sent away? Will they be taken back when the financial condition of the Presidency improves? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" The question will be considered when the conditions improve."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government has considered the desirability of re-entertaining these persons that were thrown out in preference to restoring the salary cuts by March 1933? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" We have not yet considered that question."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" What are the principles according to which these people have been asked to go? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" The Government have laid down the general categories in the order of preference. I am not in a position to give from memory what they all are. Speaking from memory I may say, it will first affect those who are employed on a purely temporary basis; secondly men who are on probation and have not obtained footing, next those who have attained age for retirement; next those who have been in service for over 30 years; next those who are over 25 years' service. I cannot remember all the others. We have classified in that way."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Among these people, are there any who have put in a permanent service of only 5 to 10 years? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" I must ask for notice of that question. It covers many departments."

Military

Raising Infantry Battalions of Madrasees.

* 1150 *Q.*—Subadar-Major S. A. NANJAPPA Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state what action the Government have taken on the resolution passed by the Council on the 5th August 1931 regarding the raising of at least ten Madrasee active Infantry Battalions?

A.—A copy of the Proceedings of the Legislative Council on the resolution in question was forwarded to the Government of India.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know when this resolution was forwarded to the Government of India, and what their reply is? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" On 26th September last. The Government received no reply."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Will they remind the Government of India to expedite their reply? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. STOKES:—" No reply is necessary. The matter is purely one for the Government of India to pass orders on."

Medical Administration

In-patients in the Tuberculosis Hospital, Madras.

* 1151 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of in-patients admitted into the Tuberculosis Hospital, Madras, during the years 1929, 1930 and 1931; and

(*b*) the number of such patients coming from each of the districts of the Madras Presidency?

A.—(*a*)

	Number of in-patients admitted.
1929	435
1930	595
1931	757

(*b*) A statement[*] is appended.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" May I know whether any monies are being collected from the patients seeking admission into this hospital, on behalf of either the Government or the Superintendent or the Assistant Superintendent? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" Notice, Sir."

* Printed as Appendix VI on page 1006 infra.

24th March 1932]

Public Health

Water-supply from Mettur dam to Salem.

* 1152 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) at what particular stage the proposal of water-supply to Salem from Mettur dam now is;

(*b*) when the Government expect to sanction the scheme;

(*c*) when the scheme will be put into execution; and

(*d*) how much grant and how much loan the Government propose to give to the municipality towards this scheme?

A.—(*a*) The proposal is now under consideration with the Sanitary Engineer who has been requested to consult the Chief Engineer, Hydro-Electric Development, to see to what extent the running expenses can reasonably be reduced so that it may be possible for the Municipal Council to meet them.

(*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The financing of the scheme has not yet been settled. Until this question is settled, it is not possible to say when the scheme will be sanctioned or put into execution.

Public Works

Improvements to the Cooum and the Buckingham Canal.

* 1153 *Q.*—Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether large sums of money from Provincial funds have been spent on the improvement of the Cooum river and the Buckingham canal within the city limits during the last five years;

(*b*) what the total expenditure incurred is from the commencement of the sea-water pumping scheme of the Cooum up to the 31st December 1931, and the silt clearance of the Buckingham canal within the city limits for the last three years;

(*c*) who is in charge of the conservancy of the Cooum river banks in the neighbourhood of Komaleswaranpet and Chintadripet;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the revetment stones of the bank of the Cooum river are being used for the purpose of drying cow-dung cakes by the cowherds in the vicinity of Komaleswaranpet rendering the portion insanitary and the cows and buffaloes are picketed and washed in the waters of the said river; and

(*e*) what steps the Government or the Corporation have taken in the matter of mitigating the nuisance and improving the sanitary condition of that locality bordering on the river margin?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The figures are given below:—

(i) On improvements to the Cooum river—

	Original works.	Maintenance.
	RS.	RS.
1927–28	26,186	5,258
1928–29	1,21,747	14,029
1929–30	Nil.	15,000
1930–31	2,340	6,983
From 1st April 1931 to 31st December 1931.	4,243	3,610

(ii) On silt clearance in the Buckinham canal within the city limits—

	RS.
1929	3,978
1930	4,179
1931	6,586

(*c*) The Corporation of Madras is in charge of the conservancy of the Cooum river banks.

(*d*) The Government have no information.

(*e*) The insanitary condition of the river margins is due largely to the nuisances committed by the public. The Commissioner of Police has been taking necessary action to abate the nuisance to some extent. The Cooum is also being petrolized regularly by the Corporation's Malaria Staff to prevent its being a breeding place of mosquitoes.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"In view of the inefficiency of the Buckingham canal service in spite of what has been done before, may I ask the hon. Minister what he proposes to do to make the canal efficient?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I must ask for notice."

Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar:—"Who is the owner of this Cooum river?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"It belongs to the Government, and its conservancy is in charge of the Corporation."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask whether the Minister for Public Works is not aware of the large complaint of mosquitoes in the City of Madras?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"This question may well be directed to the Commissioner of the Corporation."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"Seeing that large estimates for the Buckingham canal were prepared and partly carried out, may I know whether the Government will continue the work and, if so, under what condition?"

The hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I will consider the question, if notice is given."

24th March 1932]

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether Government is paying anything to the Corporation for petrolizing? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Notice."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Arising out of the answer to clause (c), may I ask whether the Government have satisfied themselves that the Corporation is petrolizing the banks of the Cooum satisfactorily? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I do not know: the matter is eminently one for the Corporation and not for the Government."

Mr. V. T. ARASU :—" May I know whether as a result of all the money that has been spent on the improvement of the Cooum, it has *really improved?* "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I am not prepared to give any opinion on it."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether Government has contributed anything to the Corporation for keeping the banks in good conservancy? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I have no information on the subject."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know what steps the Government have taken to stop the Government Hospital, the Penitentiary and such other Government institutions from committing nuisance in the Cooum? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" I have nothing to do with it."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I ask whether the work of silt clearance is still being continued or has been given up and whether Government has any other scheme in view? "

The hon. Mr. P. T. RAJAN :—" Notice."

Education

Term of office of the present Superintendent of the Egmore Girls' School.

* 1154 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) for how many years the present Superintendent of the Egmore Girls' School has been in the City, and for how many years has she been headmistress of the same school before she was made the Superintendent ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a Government Order has been issued recently to the effect that officers in the Education Department who have served for three years should be transferred to another place ;

(*c*) whether she possesses any English University qualifications ; and

(*d*) if the answer to clause (c) is in the affirmative, what those qualifications are ?

A.—(*a*) She has been employed in the City for seventeen years, and was headmistress for nine years.

(*b*) No such orders have been issued.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Does not arise.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know the reason for giving this preference to this lady who is allowed to be employed in the city for 17 years and to be headmistress for nine years, from which she has been promoted to the Superintendent's post recently? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" There is no particular reason for sending her away."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" What is the reason for keeping her so long in the City? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" There is no special reason."

Provision of tiffin room in the Government Muhammadan College and Madrasa-i-Azam.

* 1155 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there is no tiffin room in the Government Muhammadan College and Madrasa-i-Azam, Madras, for the Muslim pupils studying therein and that on that account the scholars are put to great inconvenience;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the scholars attending the said institution are constrained to take their food in the open air under the shade of the trees and exposed to dust, etc.;

(*c*) what were the reasons for the old tiffin rooms having been taken away and why was no fresh arrangement made up to date;

(*d*) what steps do the Government propose to take to redress the grievance of the pupils in the said institution;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that there are no arrangements for the supply of pure drinking water to the students studying in the Government Muhammadan College and Madrasa-i-Azam; and

(*f*) whether it is a fact that ordinarily boys drink unfiltered water straight from the taps and that even these taps are not sufficient in number?

A.—(*a*) There is no separate tiffin room for the College or the school. A portion of the ground floor of the school building is used for the purpose.

(*b*) Boys are encouraged to take their tiffin in the fresh air under the shade of trees and the Principal hopes that many will continue to do so in preference to taking their meal in a common tiffin room.

24th March 1932]

(c) Three small tiffin rooms 15′ × 11′ were built some years ago. One of them is used as a tiffin room for the staff, another is being used temporarily as a lecture room and at other times by the University Training Corps and the third is used as a store room for the College.

(d) There has been so far no evidence of any widespread or deeply-felt grievance in the matter. The two tiffin rooms now used for other purposes will be available next term when the College classes are removed to the new building nearing completion.

(e) No.

The arrangements for the supply of pure drinking water are adequate. There is no lack of boiled water supply and there has been no complaint for the last ten years from students.

(f) Tap water is frequently preferred, but it would not be hygienic to increase the number of taps for this purpose.

Fisheries

Catching of fish by the Japanese fishermen near Negapatam.

* 1156 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Japanese fishermen recently made large catches in the fishing area discovered by the trawler near Negapatam and brought them for sale to Negapatam; and

(b) whether any fishing ground has been mapped out by the trawler near the coast of Malabar or South Kanara?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) Not in accurate detail.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government can give any additional information in regard to the reply to this question?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"No additional information has been received."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"May I know whether the Government propose to make use of the discovery made by the trawler, or whether they will leave the fishing grounds newly discovered to be exploited by Japanese fishermen?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"The information received is not definite yet; and we cannot make it a basis for drawing any conclusions."

[For further list of starred questions, please see page 877 infra.]

[24th March 1932

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Law and Order—General

Lathi charge at Calicut beach on 17th January 1932.

1157 *Q.*—Mr. K. P. Raman Menon: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many persons were injured by the use of lathis by the police on the Calicut beach on Sunday the 17th instant;

(*b*) whether persons violating the Ordinance about public meetings are, besides being liable to prosecution, also liable to personal chastisement at the hands of police before they are tried and convicted; and

(*c*) whether besides the persons violating the Ordinance mentioned above sight-seers are liable to be set upon by the police?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information but have called for a report.

(*b*) Persons who are members of an unlawful assembly considered likely to disturb the public tranquillity are liable to be dispersed by force and prosecuted. The object of forcible dispersal is the prevention of a disturbance of the public tranquillity and not the punishment of members of the unlawful assembly.

(*c*) As soon as an assembly is declared unlawful, it is the duty of all law-abiding citizens to dissociate themselves from it. Sight-seers who remain do so at their own risk and are liable to be dispersed with other members of the unlawful assembly.

Irrigation

Improvements to the supply-channel leading from the Manneru river to the Mopad and Machavaram tanks.

1158 *Q.*—Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount for which the latest revised estimate has been prepared by the Public Works Department for the repairs and improvement of the supply channel leading from the Manneru river to the Mopad and Machavaram tanks in Kandukur taluk in the Nellore district ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the scheme has been held to be remunerative even if its cost amounted to Rs. 2 lakhs ;

(*c*) whether the ryots of the affected area have been informed that the execution of the said estimate would be undertaken if they contributed one-half of the cost of the scheme ;

(*d*) whether the ryots have contributed a portion of their quota already and if so, how much ; and

(*e*) when the Government propose to start the execution of the work ?

A.—(*a*) The latest rough forecast of the cost is Rs. 70,000 for the restoration of the Reddicalva in order to increase the supply to the Machavaram tank and for the opening of a sluice in it for supplementing the supply to the Mopad tank.

(*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information.

(*d*) A sum of about Rs. 25,000 appears to have been collected from the interested ryots.

(*e*) The proposals are under the consideration of the local officers, and it cannot now be said when the work will be started.

Public Service

Memorial from the Secretary of the Viswakarman Young Men's Literary Association, Rajahmundry, regarding the appointment of Viswabrahmans to Government service.

1159 *Q.*—Pandit GANALA RAMAMURTI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received a memorial from Mr. Turubati Suryaprakasa Rao, the Secretary of the Viswakarman Young Men's Literary Association, Rajahmundry, making some suggestions regarding the appointment of Viswabrahmans to Government service; and

(*b*) what action Government propose to take on the suggestions made by him?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No such memorial was received by Government.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Government Press

Memorial, dated the 4th March 1931, from the Government Press Labour Union.

* 1160 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a memorial, dated 4th March 1931, from the Government Press Labour Union regarding security of service, temporary employees, working of the Lino and Mono machines by double shifts, minimum wage and recognition of the Union and, if so, what steps have been taken on it;

(*b*) whether the Government will be pleased to place on the table of this House a copy of the memorial;

(*c*) whether it is also a fact that the hon. the Home Member also received a deputation from the Government Press Labour Union on 13th April 1931 and that a memorandum of grievances of the workmen of the Government Press was presented to him and that the hon. Member promised to redress them; and

(*d*) if the answer to clause (*c*) be in the affirmative, what the hon. Member has done in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The Government received on the 17th March 1931 a memorial, dated the 4th March 1931, from the Madras Government Press Labour Union. As this Union had not received official recognition, the Government, as a preliminary to a consideration of the representations contained in the memorial, informed the President of the Union on 11th July 1931 of the conditions upon which the Government would be prepared to recognize the Union. The Government have yet to hear that those conditions have been accepted and complied with.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Does not arise.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know what the conditions are that the Government want to impose for the recognition of the Union?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Not more than two non-officials should be among the office-bearers, which should not include a former dismissed employee of the Press."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether the hon. Member is aware that the Trades Union Act permits 50 per cent of the office-bearers to be non-members of an organization?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Notice."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Who is the President of the Union referred to in the answer?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"My hon. Friend, Mr. Basu Dev."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I know why Government want to impose on the Union this condition which is not in keeping with the Trade Union Act?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Government have thought that, on associations of this sort, two non-officials will do."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I know whether the Government will reconsider their decision that the office-bearers should not exceed a certain proportion, as it is not in conformity with the latest recommendations of the Whitley Commission?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"No, Sir."

24th March 1932]

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Are we to take it that it is the policy of this Government to discourage non-official members from *taking any active part in the running of any Trade Union?* "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " There is no such policy. But I have stated the conditions on which we are prepared to recognize."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—" Is it a fact that this Union has rightly refused to put itself under any such obligation for the purpose of recognition and has turned down the condition imposed by Government? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I have no information."

Machinery at Government Press not in actual use.

* 1161 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to furnish a list of all the machines and presses in the Government Press at Mint Buildings and at Mount Road, which are not being worked, with the dates of the purchase of each and the dates from which they are not being worked, the reason for the same and cost of each of the machines and presses?

A.—A list [a] is appended.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask what Government proposes to do with the nine machines which are lying idle and which seem also not to be very old ones? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Notice."

Law and Order—General

Beating and arrest of Dr. Paton.

* 1162 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) when was Dr. Paton beaten by the Police;

(*b*) when was he arrested;

(*c*) when was the prosecution launched against him;

(*d*) when was the evidence against him complete and ready;

(*e*) when was his written statement filed and made part of the record of the case;

(*f*) when and by whom was the withdrawal of the prosecution suggested;

(*g*) when was the withdrawal ordered by the Government;

(*h*) whether the Law Officers of the Government were consulted before the case was launched or withdrawn;

(*i*) who were the Police officers who beat and ill-treated Dr. Paton and who were the Police witnesses cited to prove the charge against him;

[a] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 1007–1008 infra.

(*j*) who was the Police officer that investigated the case and laid the charge-sheet;

(*k*) whether the said Police officers or officer or any of them have been punished for their part in the affair; and

(*l*) whether any disciplinary action has been taken against any policeman or against any official in connexion with this occurrence or case?

A.—(*a*) On 15th January 1932.

(*b*) 16th January 1932.

(*c*) A charge-sheet was filed in Court on 18th January 1932.

(*d*) By the 17th January 1932.

(*e*) Dr. Paton's statement was filed by his Counsel in the High Court on 28th January 1932.

(*f*) & (*g*) The case was withdrawn by the Commissioner with the approval of the Government after consultation with them. No formal order was issued.

(*h*) No.

(*i*) The crowd, including Dr. Paton, was dispersed by force by Sergeant Butler and his party. The police witnesses cited were Inspector Currie, Sergeant Butler and Police Constable 433 Abdul Khadir.

(*j*) Mr. Anantachariar, the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Law and Order, investigated the case and the charge-sheet was laid by the Crime Branch.

(*k*) & (*l*) No.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" With reference to the answer to questions (*k*) and (*l*) I want to know why Government did not take any action against the Police officers who have admittedly committed a wrong? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I refer my hon. Friend to the statement that I made yesterday? "

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have read the statement more than once; I do not find any reason why Government should not take proper action against the officials who have done wrong? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We do not admit that they have committed a wrong."

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" The hon. the Home Member has stated on a previous occasion that Dr. Paton was arrested by the Commissioner of Police without the knowledge of the Government of Madras. May I know whether there is any truth in the statement appearing in some of the newspapers that Dr. Paton was arrested in the precincts of the Secretariat as he was coming out of the room of the Chief Secretary? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Notice."

24th March 1932]

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—"May I know why the Government have chosen to withdraw the prosecution?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I have answered that question on a former occasion."

Correspondence with the Secretary of State for India, regarding Dr. Paton's case.

* 1163 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what was the version of Dr. Paton's case which the Local Government forwarded to the Secretary of State for India; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that, according to it, Dr. Paton was innocent and his arrest and subsequent treatment illegal?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government are unable to disclose the correspondence between them and the Secretary of State for India on the subject.

Report regarding injuries caused by the Police in using lathi or canes on picketers and other congress volunteers.

* 1164 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government receive any detailed report of the injuries caused by the Police using lathi or cane on picketers and other congress volunteers; and

(*b*) if not, how they satisfy themselves that only minimum force is used?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) District Magistrates send reports in all cases when death or serious injury is caused in the dispersal of unlawful assemblies. Reports are called for in other cases in which the Government consider enquiry necessary. District Magistrates on their own initiative also make such investigations as they find necessary and report the result to Government.

Investigation into the beating of isolated picketers.

* 1165 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any cases of beating of isolated picketers, who do not by themselves constitute an unlawful assembly, have recently been brought to the notice of Government;

(*b*) whether Government have investigated such cases and taken any action in the matter; and

(*c*) whether it is a fact that in spite of the instructions of Government, cases of beating of isolated picketers continue to be reported?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) Allegations have been made that picketers have been beaten otherwise than in accordance with the law. When the allegations have been definite as to persons, times and places investigation has been made. No case has been proved and the Government have no reason to think that Police officers are acting otherwise than in accordance with the law. Further it is open to any person who considers himself aggrieved to prefer a complaint in Court. So far as the Government are aware, no such complaint has been preferred.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" The Government say ' No case has been proved and the Government have no reason to think that the Police officers have acted otherwise than in accordance with the law '. May I know as to whether any opportunity has been given to the injured persons to prove their case when the Collector held any enquiry? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" It is open to the Collector to hear anybody, including the injured party who may make representations to him."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" How can the Government say that the case has not been proved? There is no opportunity given for the injured party to make representation? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" Because the District Magistrate has made the necessary enquiry."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" Who is to prove that in that case? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have answered that question."

Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—" May I enquire, Sir, whether in any of the cases where definite allegations have been made in regard to the beating of individual picketers, Government have made any independent inquiry or they have satisfied themselves with mere official reports of the incidents? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We have called for reports, we have asked in many cases for further information, and after we satisfy ourselves we issue in our Press Communiqués the results of the enquiry."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Has Government issued any instructions to the District Magistrates that it is desirable to take statements from injured persons? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The District Magistrates know that."

24th March 1932]

Instructions to the Police not to molest wearers of Khaddar dress or Gandhi caps.

* 1166 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in accordance with the answer given by him at question time in the Council on the 24th of last month he has considered the suggestion made by several of the Members to issue instructions to the Police not to molest persons for wearing Khaddar dress or Gandhi caps; and

(*b*) whether he has taken any action in the matter?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have considered the question and have decided that no further instructions are necessary. They have already issued instructions that no action in excess of or not justified by the law should be taken and they are confident that these instructions are being observed by all their officers to the best of their ability.

Alleged Police excesses on picketers in Gudivada.

* 1167 *Q.*—Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether from the 15th instant onwards Sreemathis Gonuguntla Lakshminarasimham Amma (Congress Dictator, Gudivada taluk), Vallabhaneni Sita Mahalakshmamma (Golivapalli), Iripiraneni Kousalyadevi (Angalore) and Arikapudi Ushamani picketed foreign cloth shops at Gudivada (Kistna district);

(*b*) whether the Gudivada Police splashed on them coloured water mixed with chilli powder and smeared them with cowdung and mud;

(*c*) whether the said Police took them in a car, saying that they were under arrest and left them at a distance of about ten miles at sunset;

(*d*) whether the same procedure was repeated by the Police when they returned and resumed picketing the next morning;

(*e*) whether the Police Circle Inspector and Sergeant went to the spot of picketing with a posse of Policemen on the 21st idem (21st February 1932), injected with a syringe coloured and chilli water into the eyes, noses, ears and faces of these ladies, whereupon two of the picketers, viz., Kousalyadevi and Ushamani lost consciousness; and

(*f*) whether the Police took the unconscious picketers to the local Local Fund Hospital and the other two to an unknown destination?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*f*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of Question No. 1275 placed on the table with Public (General) Department u.o. Note No. 7420-3, dated 17th March 1932 and to the annexed extract[a] from the Government's Press Communiqué No. 15, dated the 7th March 1932. Chilli powder was not mixed with water syringed on the picketers, nor were they smeared with cowdung and mud. No woman was rendered unconscious.

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[a] Printed as Appendix VIII on page 1008 infra.

Alleged forcible administration of toddy by the Police to the picketers at Ghantasala on 22nd February 1932.

* 1168 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two volunteers Messrs. Gottipati Narasimham and V. Reddi were beaten at Ghantasala on 22nd February 1932 while picketing a liquor shop;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that even after they fell down they were beaten with lathis;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Circle Inspector forced the volunteers to drink toddy; and

(*d*) whether the Government will call for a report?

A.—(*a*) Eight volunteers who picketed the toddy shop at Ghantasala were declared an unlawful assembly and ordered to disperse. On their refusal they were dispersed by force.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The Government obtained a report from the District Magistrate on seeing these allegations in the press.

Alleged forcible administration of toddy by the Police to the picketers at Ghantasala on 22nd February 1932.

* 1169 *Q.*—Rai Sahib C. KOLANDA REDDI: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Gorrepati Narasimham and Kaumuru Rami Reddi peacefully picketed the toddy and arrack shops of Ghantasala village on 22nd February 1932 (Divi taluk, Kistna district), without a crowd collecting there and from a distance of about 70 yards ;

(*b*) whether the picketers were giving jaggery water to those who were going to the shops in order to wean them away from drinking;

(*c*) whether at 3 p.m. on that day the Deputy Collector of Bandar, the Circle Inspector, the Sub-Inspector of Challapalle and twenty reserve constables came to the place of picketing ;

(*d*) whether the Circle Inspector asked Gorrepati Narasimham to leave the place ;

(*e*) whether Narsimham replied that he was requesting the drunkards not to drink and as such could not go away from that place ;

(*f*) whether the Sub-Inspector ordered a lathi charge;

(*g*) whether the constables formed into two parties and belaboured each of the picketers until they fell down and became unconscious ;

(*h*) whether subsequently the unconscious Rami Reddi was dragged to the place where Narasimham was lying and beat the unconscious men and kicked them with boots still further indulging in obscene language all the while until Narasimham began to bleed on the left arm; and

(*i*) whether when they regained consciousness they were thrown into the compound of the toddy shop and forced by the Police to drink toddy and when they refused, the Sub-Inspector flung toddy on their faces and when the Police had left, the villagers carried the injured on cots and had them treated ?

24th March 1932]

A.—(*a*), (*d*), (*e*), (*f*) & (*g*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clauses (*a*) and (*b*) of question No. 1168.

(*b*) The Government have no information.

(*c*) On receiving information that picketing was to take place at the toddy shop at Ghantasala on 22nd February 1932, the Subdivisional Magistrate, Bandar, the Circle Inspector, and a party of the Reserve Police proceeded to the village.

(*h*) No.

(*i*) No.

Withdrawal of the Ordinances.

* 1170 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have begun to consider the desirability of the withdrawal of the Ordinances so far as this Presidency is concerned; and

(*b*) whether the Government have made any such proposal to His Excellency the Viceroy or the Government of India?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) No.

Mr. V. T. ARASU:—" In view of the fact that the Civil Disobedience Movement has not taken deep root in this Province, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to request the Viceroy and Governor-General, to withdraw the ordinances in this Province? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether in view of the Governments claim they have suppressed the Civil Disobedience movement, the Government will take to the notice of the Government of India that there is no longer any necessity for the continuance of the ordinance in this province? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The Government of India know the real state of affairs. We are informing them of what is happening."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the Government do claim that they have suppressed the Civil Disobedience movement or not? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We are trying to suppress it."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member to have the courtesy to repeat his answer—we are living in days of short memories? "

[24th March 1932

Alleged beating of two picketers by the Police at Mangalore on 3rd February 1932.

* 1171 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two picketers picketing Messrs. D. Kanji & Bros. in Mangalore town were given about 60 severe lashes with canes each, by about eight policemen and circle inspectors on 3rd February 1932, on the head and all over the body;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that after the picketers fainted and fell on the ground, the Police lifted them and again severely lashed them with canes;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the canes used were of a diameter of about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that as the picketers were lifted up, the Circle Inspector of Mangalore was asking the policemen to beat on; and

(*e*) under what provision of law were the abovesaid volunteers beaten; and

(*f*) whether the Government approve of the conduct of the Police in the use of such force by the Police; if not, what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The information with the Government is that some volunteers who picketed the shop on 3rd February 1932 were forcibly dispersed and that some of them received injuries.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The canes were $\frac{5}{16}$ of an inch thick.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) They were dispersed under the provisions of Chapter IX of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

(*f*) There is nothing to show that the force used by the Police was illegal or excessive.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" With reference to the answer to clause (*f*), this is a case where the Government admits that it is only the picketers that were dispersed. May I know how, when there are only two picketers, they could be beaten? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" ' Dispersed ' does not mean beaten."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—" But it is given here that they were dispersed by canes of $\frac{5}{16}$ of an inch thick? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" Yes, the picketers might be only two in number, but there may have been a big crowd and it may be disorderly; and in order to prevent a breach of the peace they have to disperse them by force."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" With reference to the enquiries of Government, may I ask when Government say

24th March 1932]

they are satisfied whether it means that the parties concerned are sent for and enquired or whether it implies only calling for Police officers' statements?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"In many cases, other people's statements as well."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know as to who were examined in this case?" 11-4 a.m

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
"I want notice."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"Sir, the hon. Member has received the reports of the Collectors in many of these cases and he is in possession of the information. I ask whether he is justified in asking for notice."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"If the hon. Member thinks that the information that is asked for in the supplementary question is not available in the report that has been received from the Collector, I think he is quite in order in asking for notice."

Alleged Police excesses on picketers in Mangalore on 26th February 1932.

* 1172 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether on the 26th February 1932 there was extensive peaceful picketing of shops, courts and colleges in Mangalore; and if so,

(i) the places picketed,

(ii) the number of volunteers picketing each place,

(iii) the number of persons beaten at each place, their names and the nature of the beatings and their severity;

(*b*) whether any of the picketers were admitted into the Wenlock Hospital;

(*c*) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to call for an extract from the accident register pertaining to each of the injured volunteers; and

(*d*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take?

A.—(*a*) The information available with the Government is furnished below—

Places picketed.	Number of picketers.	The number of persons beaten . . . etc.
(1) District Court.	Three batches of two volunteers each.	None. They were removed from the scene and then released with a warning.
(2) Government College.	Three.	(as above)
(3) Coffee hotel ..	Two.	The picketers and the crowd which gathered were dispersed with light canes. One picketer named Mahabala Bhandary was admitted to the Wenlock Hospital on February 26th and discharged on February 28th.

(*b*) One ; Mahabala Bhandary mentioned above.
(*c*) The Government have done so.
(*d*) None.

Use of excessive force by the Police of South Kanara.

* 1173 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was a general hartal in the whole district of South Kanara on the 26th February 1932 to protest against excessive, unwarranted and unjustifiable beating by the Police of peaceful picketers on the 24th February and before, at Mangalore and other places in the district;

(*b*) whether the Government have received complaints alleging excessive, illegal and unjustifiable use of force by the Police both from the hon. Members of this House by way of communications, deputations and interpellations, and from the published reports of the said excesses in the papers; and

(*c*) what action have the Government taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) There was no general hartal in the whole of the district. There was a partial hartal, mainly in Mangalore, in which some 60 shops and warehouses were closed. The real object of the hartal, which is reported to have been organized by the civil disobedience party, was to further the cause of civil disobedience by making a demonstration against the Government. The professed object according to one version was to protest against alleged Police excesses, according to another to protest against the Government of India policy and according to a third to celebrate 'political sufferers' day.'

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The Government have investigated all the complaints made by hon. Members and such of the allegations made in newspaper reports as appeared to need enquiry.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I ask whether the Government consider that the actions of the Police in this instance are justified?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I have always said that, if excesses have been committed, I am prepared to make enquiries in the matter."

Government Communiqué No. 15, dated 7th March 1932, regarding the hiring of volunteers for picketing in Madras.

* 1174 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the basis is of the Government's statement in their communiqué No. 15, dated 7th March 1932, to the effect that emissaries have been sent out to districts to hire volunteers for picketing in Madras;

24th March 1932]

(*b*) how many such emissaries have been sent out and to which of the districts and by whom;

(*c*) how many volunteers have been hired out and what the fund spent thereon is and from which source; and

(*d*) whether the Government will place the sources of their information on the table of the House?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The information on which the statement was based and the source of it are confidential. The Government are not prepared to disclose them. The Government understand that one person alleged to have been sent out from Madras is being prosecuted.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know what the sources are from which the Government get their information? Are they merely Police sources or are they any other independent sources? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " Police as well as outside."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask whether the Government have got any system of espionage and, if not, wherefrom they get this information? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I have already said that the source is confidential."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask what are the other sources from which the Government get their information? Those I think are not confidential. What is the other source from which the Government has received this information, viz.:—' That emissaries have been *sent out to districts to hire volunteers for picketing in* Madras '? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " The Police have got their own informers."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Are they paid-informers of Government or of Police? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I do not think they are paid-informers."

Alleged beating of Mr. Kameswara Rao by the Police of Rajahmundry.

* 1175 *Q.—Mr.* ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: *Will the hon. the* Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Kameswara Rao who is working in the Co-operative Bank, Rajahmundry, was accosted by some C.I.D. constables in the night and beaten severely while he was returning from the railway station ; and

(*b*) whether the Policemen asked him where Mr. Prakasa Rao was and when he was unable to give the information, he was beaten near the Godavari bund ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information but will call for it if the hon. Member will state the place and date of the alleged incident.

Alleged wrongful confinement of certain gentlemen by the Commissioner of Police, Madras City.

* 1176 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that certain gentlemen were sent for by the Police Commissioner immediately prior to the arrival of the Indian Franchise Committee at Madras and when the said persons went to the Commissioner's office they were at once locked up, and have been kept under confinement ever since;

(*b*) if so, under what provision of the law this was done and how many such persons were locked up, and for what period; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to enquire into the illegality or otherwise of this procedure?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask, when the Government receive the report, what action they propose to take? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" We have not yet received the report from the Commissioner of Police."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask, when the Commissioner's Office is just within two or three miles away from the Secretariat buildings, why such enormous delay is caused in getting the report? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The Commissioner of Police has other work as well to do."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Is it the object of the hon. Home Member that these questions should not be answered and they should not be tackled in this House when it is in Session? Or is it due to any practical difficulty? If not, may I know why the Commissioner of Police has not been instructed to send his reply as early as possible in view of the fact that the Session is coming to a close? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" The Commissioner of Police, as I said above, has other work as well."

Alleged hurt to Mr. Krishna Ayyar, caused by the Ambasamudram Police.

* 1177 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Krishna Ayyar, son of Swaminatha Ayyar, Kalladakurichi, received a gaping wound on the head 4½ inches long as a result of a lathi blow by the Ambasamudram police on 15th January 1932;

24th March 1932]

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the injury has left a permanent mark 2 inches long;

(*c*) whether full particulars were given of this incident in paragraph 11 of a memorandum presented to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, on 11th February 1932;

(*d*) whether any enquiry has been made into the truth of these allegations and if so, what the finding is of the enquiring officer;

(*e*) whether any and if so, what action has been taken in this matter so far; and

(*f*) whether the Government will be pleased to direct an enquiry into this matter, if no enquiry has been so far made?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" In view of the serious allegations made in this question, may I ask the hon. Member whether he will be pleased to direct the District Magistrate to hold an enquiry into this matter? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I have already done so."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask whether the hon. the Home Member will be pleased to give definite instructions to the District Magistrate that notice may be issued to those people who want to give evidence or who want to produce witnesses and the statements of those witnesses recorded? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " The suggestion of the hon. Member will be considered."

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1178 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur *R. N.* AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi on 15th January 1932 when one K. R. Viraswami Ayyar was purchasing coconut in Chella Pillai's vegetable shop in the bazaar at 4-30 p.m. and only the shopman and Viraswami Ayyar were present at the time, and there was no crowd at all on the road, Reserve Police acting under the direction of the Police Officer of Ambasamudram lathi charged and dealt severe blows on the head and ear which was torn and stitched by the doctor?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Sir, we are not in a position to follow supplementary questions, because no information has been given. If there was not sufficient time, I wonder whether it was not possible for the hon. Member to wire and get the information and place it before the House considering the fact that the Session is now coming to a close? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "To get information by wire would be very unsatisfactory. We wanted a full report and it was not possible to get it by wire."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In view of the series of questions covering nearly two pages, that have been given notice of to-day, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to issue a Communiqué so that we may know what it contains although the Council may not be in Session?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I have called for reports and as soon as they are received, I shall consider the suggestion for making the contents of that report public."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"In this and other series of questions several allegations have been made and there is a good deal of public dissatisfaction. May I therefore ask the hon. the Home Member to institute a public enquiry so that the public discontent may be allayed?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "There is no dissatisfaction in the minds of the public."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether it is the idea of the Government to have another Session in the month of May or June in order that satisfactory answers to these questions may be laid on the table of the House then?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"That does not arise out of this question."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask the hon. the Home Member whether, in view of the fact that there has been no sufficient time for him to get the information, he will ask for further notice of these questions so that they may be answered in June or July and the Members of this House also may have an opportunity of putting their supplementary questions?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "There is no need to ask for further notice."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know from the hon. the Home Member whether it was impossible for him to have asked for further notice of these questions so that they might not have been put in in to-day's questions, but might be put in in the next Session."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "What am I to do, Sir? On the 15th some sixty questions were received and I must have sufficient time to make enquiries."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May we suggest that these questions do stand over for the next Session and I hope we can give fresh notice of these questions?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The hon. Member has been sufficiently long in the Council to know whether fresh notice of these questions can

24th March 1932]

be given and whether they can be admitted. Yesterday I suggested that if the hon. Members think that the answers which they get from the Government are not satisfactory, or sufficient, they may give fresh notice of those questions."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" I dare say you could appreciate my difficulty. It is peculiarly disappointing to me to find that no information has been given to a series of questions. Whenever Government give answers to questions, they must have known that they should give some information in their answers. This is certainly not the kind of answer which the House is accustomed to receive to the questions put on the floor of the House. Before giving an opportunity to the Legislative Council to give fresh notice of these questions, if they had given some answer and if that answer was not satisfactory, certainly one would have been right in asking us to give fresh notice of these questions. But here there is no answer. So the hon. the Home Member could have very well asked the hon. the President permission to put these questions in the next Session. It is very curious that the hon. the Home Member has thought fit to give such answers."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" There is nothing curious about it. Just on the 15th or 16th the Government received about sixty questions containing allegations. Under those circumstances, how can the hon. Members expect Government to come forward and reply in a detailed manner."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I ask, Sir, while the time set down by the Standing Orders is only seven days and experience has shown that seven days' period was quite sufficient for the Government why it has not been possible for the Government with all its staff, equipment and resources to get the information within seven days' time? If that time was not sufficient, what prevented the hon. Home Member from asking you, as President, to extend the time for the answers to these questions instead of merely flinging these unsatisfactory answers at us? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I think the hon. the Home Member has answered Mr. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar's question by saying that, after receiving the reports from the Collector with regard to the allegations contained in these questions, he would see his way to place them before the public. In view of that statement, I do not think it necessary to urge him for any further particulars before the information is received by him."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" We shall be satisfied with that statement provided the hon. the Home Member assures us that when the report is received, he will place it before this House? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have no objection, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" With regard to the Kalladakurichi incident, may I ask the hon. the Home Member whether he will address the District Magistrate to hold the enquiry in the presence of the hon. Members of that district concerned? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir."

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1179 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi on 15th January 1932 one Krishna Ayyar, son of Swaminatha Ayyar, when buying coconut and fruits inside the bazaar, was lathi charged by the Police and received severe blows on the head causing profuse bleeding as evidenced by doctor's certificate showing gaping wound about 4½ inches on the left side of head?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1180 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi on 15th January 1932 one T. C. Narayana Ayyar while he was sitting on the *pial* of his neighbour's house, was given lathi charge by four police constables and, when there was no one on the road except the police, also struck him on the right leg causing profuse bleeding with the result that he became unconscious as found by doctor with gaping wound 2½ inches long?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1181 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi one K. Narayana Ayyar (Government servant) village munsif of Malayankulam, while he was sitting in the outer veranda of his house in Vythiappapuram street, was lathi charged by probationary Sub-Inspector of Police with half a dozen police on 15th January 1932 causing contused wounds on both his arms and back and abrasion?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1182 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi on 15th January 1932, one A. Krishna Ayyangar, teacher and scoutmaster, was lathi charged by four constables while he was engaged in buying bucket in Sudalamuthu Pillai's shop and caused bleeding injuries?

24th March 1932]

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1183 *Q*.—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi on 15th January 1932 one *V. K. Ramalinga Ayyar* when sitting on the door-steps of his house in Sri Varahapuram Street along with three others, a Sub-Inspector with four constables chased Ramalinga Ayyar and party, lathi charged them, caused injuries on the shoulder-blade, wrist and thigh, etc., of the said Ramalinga Ayyar, the injury on the shoulder-blade being permanent?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1184 *Q*.—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi on 15th January 1932 one Sankaranarayana Ayyar, an employee of R. S. A. Kasi Ayyar, when buying papers and collecting rent on behalf of his master in Prisal Pillai's shop and when there was no one at the time except the shopman and the purchaser, the police being the only persons on the road, ten constables surrounded him, pushed him along the road and severely assaulted him with lathis on the abdomen, right shoulder-blade, and buttocks and that a Medical officer noticed two contused swelling on his body and that he was suffering from fever on account of the injuries and shock?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1185 *Q*.—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi, one Krishna Annavi, a trustee of the 'Sree Varaha temple' who pays a beriz Rs. 300 when sitting alone on the pial in front of his house in Sannadhi street, on 15th January 1932, was lathi charged by two constables on the right leg and on the left arm and caused two contused wounds on his body and whether the police also entered the temple and gave lathi blows to the temple servants?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

[24th March 1932

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1186 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether on 15th January 1932, one K. S. Ramalinga Ayyar, a graduate of the Madras University and G. Krishnan and G. Kolathu, who were sitting in the front veranda of their house, in Vydiyanathapuram street, Kalladakurichi were lathi charged by a Sub-Inspector and six constables and received blows all over the body when there was nobody in the street except the police?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kalladakurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1187 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kalladakurichi on 15th January 1932 one T. S. Krishnan, who has passed the Intermediate Examination of Madras University, when he was sitting on the pial of his house in Kandayapuram street, with his brother-in-law Mr. A. S. Venkatarama Ayyar, Accountant, Public Works Department, was lathi charged by police and caused him injuries on the right hand?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kallidaikurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1188 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether at Kallidaikurichi on 15th January 1932 when one Subrahmanya Pillai, Mooka Pillai and Naraya Pillai and a number of other devotees, were gathered together on the Pillayar temple, they were all lathi-charged by the police?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess at Kallidaikurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1189 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether on 15th January 1932 one N. C. Krishna Ayyar belonging to respectable family in Kallidaikurichi paying income-tax and beriz of Rs. 1,000 to Government, was assaulted and abused in vulgar language by the police?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

24th March 1932]

Alleged Police excess at Kallidaikurichi on the 15th January 1932.

* 1190 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Kallidaikurichi a general raid was made by the police on 15th January 1932 into private houses and the temple of "Sri Lakshmi Varaha," as a result of which more than 25 non-Congress men have received serious injuries?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly Town on the 8th January 1932.

* 1191 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Tinnevelly Town Police have seized and carried away an Ambulance stretcher on 9th January 1932 and returned the same on 4th February 1932?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged police excess in Tinnevelly Town on the 8th January 1932.

* 1192 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on 8th January 1932 one Subbiah Pillai, one of the three ambulance workers who were waiting at tailor Royappan's house, Tinnevelly town, was dragged out of the shop on the road by a Sub-Inspector and some constables and severely beaten with lathis until he became unconscious and caused serious injuries all over his body as certified to by a medical officer?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 8th January 1932.

* 1193 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on 8th January 1932, in Tinnevelly, one Sankaralingam Chettiyar, an Ambulance worker, wearing a Red-Cross badge and standing at a long distance, away from the picketing scene, was beaten with lathis by the Police and was forcibly taken inside the Police station and again beaten severely causing severe wounds on the body as testified to by a medical officer?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

[24th March 1932

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 8th January 1932.

* 1194 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Ramaswami, a non-Congress man, unconnected with picketing or ambulance, sitting in a choultry near the Tinnevelly town railway station, on 8th January 1932, was assaulted by a constable with lathi and taken to the Police station and there further subjected to further beating and torture (the Sub-Inspector is said to have pierced a pin into his arm to the depth of one inch causing a severe contused wound on the right arm as testified to by the medical officer who examined him immediately after the occurrence)?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 18th January 1932.

* 1195 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Ramanathan, a non-Congress man, unconnected with picketing or Ambulance work, who was sitting in a shop in the West Car street, Tinnevelly town, on 18th January 1932, was dragged out by the Police and was beaten with lathis on the abdomen, causing swelling and muscular paralysis of the parts affected as testified to by the medical officer?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 19th January 1932.

* 1196 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly town, one S. Palaniappa Pillai, a non-Congress man, unconnected with any political activities, was severely assaulted on 19th January 1932 by a constable after having given him over half a dozen stripes with buckled leather belt and caused severe wound and kicked him on the lower part of the abdomen causing inflammation and swelling of the scrotum, as testified to by the medical officer who treated him?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 17th January 1932.

* 1197 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly town on 17th January 1932, one V. A. Lakshmana

Mudaliyar and M. Sankaram Pillai, picketers, were taken to the Police station and surrounded by the Police and beaten with lathis and canes on various parts of the body causing serious injuries and contused wounds as certified to by a doctor?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 18th January 1932.

* 1198 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly on 18th January 1932, K. V. Nagam, a picketer, was taken to the Police station and beaten with lathi by the Police, causing lacerated wound, several contusions and other injuries on the face, outer angle of the right eye, etc., as certified to by the doctor?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 19th January 1932.

* 1199 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly on 19th January 1932, one Nagalingam Pillai, a picketer, was taken to the police station and severely assaulted by five constables with lathis and canes, causing serious injuries as certified to by the medical officer who examined him?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 22nd January 1932.

* 1200 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly on 22nd January 1932, volunteers Muthuswami Pillai and Arumuga Nainar Nadar were severely beaten by the police with lathis and canes and whether the Sub-Inspector kicked them with his booted leg on the abdomen and a dog was let loose to chase and bite them, thus causing them several contused wounds, laceration by dog-bite, thus causing in all 13 injuries as testified to by the medical officer?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 23rd January 1932.

* 1201 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on 23rd January 1932 one Karappaya Kone, a picketer, was taken to the Tinnevelly police station and beaten with canes and belt, causing lacerated wounds and contusions, the injuries amounting to 20?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly town on the 8th January 1932.

* 1202 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on 8th January 1932 one Sudekannu, a picketer, was beaten by the Tinnevelly police with lathis and butt ends of rifles on his chest, back and shoulders, causing contused wounds and bleeding?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this session.

Motor Vehicles—Control

Number of cars and buses plying for hire in Salem district.

* 1203 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of motor buses that were plying for hire in Salem district in December 1929, 1930 and 1931; and

(*b*) the number of pleasure cars plying for hire in Salem district in December 1929, 1930 and 1931?

A.—(*a*) 353, 296 and 284, respectively.
(*b*) 186, 220 and 179, respectively.

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"May I know the source from which the information regarding the number of buses and pleasure cars has been obtained?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"From the District Magistrates and the Commissioner of Police."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Is it from the records or the registers that they maintain?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Yes."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"Are the Government aware that most of the cars which are on the registers of the Police have gone out of use and are non-existent?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"I shall enquire."

24th March 1932]

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Are they all included in his figures?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I suppose so."

Administration of Justice

Pay and leave of copyists in the Judicial department.

* 1204 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the minimum quantity of work prescribed for a copyist in the Judicial department now is, and at what rate he is paid for the same per mensem;

(*b*) what were they before the year 1927;

(*c*) whether the copyists are allowed leave and if so, what kind of leave;

(*d*) whether they are allowed to avail of the summer recess of courts;

(*e*) if not, why not;

(*f*) whether they ever enjoyed the summer recess; if so, when; and

(*g*) if the reply to clause (*f*) be in the negative, on what reasons that privilege has been cut off?

A.—(*a*) Under rule 13 (*d*) of the Copyist Rules the salary of an enrolled copyist shall be proportioned to the amount of work done by him provided that no such copyist shall receive less than Rs. 20 a month. It is open to him to earn, without limitation of amount, allowances in excess of Rs. 20. Under rule 16 such allowance is calculated at the rate of 15 pies for 150 words or fraction thereof and it is subject to a recovery being made up to the amount of any excess paid to the copyist in either or both of the two last working months in order to make up his minimum salary. No minimum quantity of work has been prescribed.

(*b*) The minimum salary was Rs. 14-8-0 a month but the rate at which the allowance was calculated is the same as at present.

(*c*) Copyists are not regular Government servants. Fundamental Rules relating to leave do not apply in their case.

(*d*) *to* (*g*) There is no objection to copyists enjoying summer recess, if they so wish, but recoveries are liable to be made from their remuneration as indicated in the reply to clause (*a*) of the question.

Prisons and Prisoners

Classification of Dr. Gopalaswami Ayyar as a C class prisoner.

* 1205 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Dr. Gopalaswami Ayyar of Periyakulam is now a political prisoner in Trichinopoly Jail in C class;

(*b*) if so, under what section and for what offence was he convicted;

(*c*) what his status and position in life is, what University degree he holds;

(*d*) whether he was at any time an Honorary Assistant Surgeon and a Municipal Councillor;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that his father is a retired Government servant drawing a pension of Rs. 300 per mensem; and

(*f*) why he was put in C class and whether the Government propose to transfer him to A class?

A.—(*a*) & (*f*) The convicting Magistrate classified Gopalaswami Ayyar as C class prisoner. The Government have since placed him in A class.

(*b*) For an offence under section 17 (2) of Act XIV of 1908.

(*c*) L.M. & S., Madras University—running a private dispensary.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) His father is a retired Government servant drawing a pension of Rs. 400 per mensem.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know when the Government have thought it fit to put this gentleman now in A class why the trying Magistrate put him in C class? Is it because the convicting Magistrate had not the discretion or the discrimination to find out the status of Dr. Gopalaswami Ayyar and place him in the proper class or somewhere near it? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" That was his judgment."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he will now call for an explanation from the trying Magistrate as to why he did so without ascertaining the status and position of the prisoner? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether the information now available with regard to the status of the gentleman concerned was not placed before the Magistrate before he came to the decision of putting him under C class? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" I am not quite sure. If my friend wants accurate information, I want notice."

24th March 1932]

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether it is not due to the fact of the Government having given wide discretion to these Magistrates that he put the prisoner in C class ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" As I said, it was due to the exercise of his discretion."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" Do the Government realize that the Magistrate failed in the proper exercise of his discretion? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" Yes; therefore it is that the Government have changed the class into 'A'."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know what steps the Government propose to take against such Magistrates? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" There is no need to take any step against him."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the fact the trying Magistrate committed indiscretion in this matter, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to issue instructions to the Magistrates to make very careful enquiries in such cases? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" As a matter of fact, the Magistrates are now making very careful enquiries."

Classification of Mr. E. R. Nagarajan, a prisoner in Cannanore Jail.

* 1206 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Mr. E. R. Nagarajan and eight others of Krishnagiri are prisoners now in the Cannanore Jail;

(*b*) if so, for what offences and under what provision of law have they been convicted and for what period;

(*c*) what the class is in which they are put and why;

(*d*) what the status and position of E. R. Nagarajan and the said eight others is; and

(*e*) whether the Government propose to change all the said convicts or any of them into a higher class?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information. A report has been called for from the District Magistrate.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask whether the report called for has since been received? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir M. Krishnan Nayar:—" No, Sir."

Land Revenue Administration

The Estates Land Bill.

* 1207 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations regarding the need for nomination of expert Members to the Council to serve on the Select Committee on the Madras Estates' Land Bill (No. 12 of 1931);

[24th March 1932

(*b*) if so, what the orders passed on the representations were;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that some non-official members of this Council have applied for the sanction of the Governor-General to a non-official Bill further to amend the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908;

(*d*) whether the Government received any representations to provide facilities for the early introduction of the non-official Bill, so that it may go before the same Select Committee that is considering the Bill No. 12 of 1931; and

(*e*) if so, what the orders passed on these representations are?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) *It has not been considered necessary to nominate any expert* members.

(*c*) & (*d*) The hon. Member and five other non-official members of this Council have forwarded a Bill further to amend the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, with a request to have the Bill passed through the necessary authorities to enable its introduction after necessary leave in the Legislative Council during the current session so that it may be sent up before the Select Committee for being considered along with the Government Bill.

(*e*) The Bill requires the sanction of the Governor-General and it has not been possible to get this sanction in time.

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Has the sanction of the Governor-General been now received? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" No, Sir."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government do not think that it would be advantageous if they could consider both the Bills at the same time in the same Select Committee? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" I think it would have been advantageous to have had a separate amending Bill referred to the same Select Committee. I informed the promoters of the private Bill that if they introduced their Bill in time I would agree to both the Bills being considered by the same Select Committee. But they did not take advantage of my offer. They have given notice of a Bill which is not accompanied by the previous sanction of the Governor-General. Under the rules the notice is not valid. It will take some time for the sanction to be obtained."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Cannot the Government postpone the consideration of their Bill also till the non-official Bill has received the sanction of the Governor-General and is ready for introduction? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" No, Sir. If there is any matter in this Bill which affects the provisions of my Bill, we shall consider them in the Select Committee."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" Will not the Government ask the Government of India to kindly expedite their sanction? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" In any case, it will not be possible to introduce that Bill this Session whereas the Select Committee is going to meet in May. We cannot now arrange to have the Bill introduced and referred to the same Select Committee."

Mr. K. Koti Reddi:—" In view of the fact that the Government consider that it would be advantageous to consider both the Bills in the same Select Committee, may I ask what the Government would lose by postponing their Bill till the non-official Bill also is ready for consideration? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell:—" The Government are not prepared to do that."

Alleged intimidation of the ryots by the Zamindar of Udayarpalayam.

* 1208 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on 30th June 1931 when the Revenue Inspector went to Thathanoor to investigate and record statements of the ryots as to their grievances, the Zamindar of Udayarpalayam attempted to intimidate the ryots and to force them to give false statements;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that on their refusal, the Zamindar fetched the Revenue Divisional Officer in his car to further frighten and intimidate the ryots;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that on the arrival of the Subdivisional Officer the ryots represented to him that the meeting was constitutional and was convened in pursuance of his advice;

(*d*) what the reason was for the Revenue Divisional Officer to accompany the Zamindar in his car and what action did he take;

(*e*) under what provision of law did he purport to act;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that on 12th July 1931 the Revenue Divisional Officer and the Tahsildar, along with the Zamindar of Udayarpalayam, camped in the Zamin village of Tholarankurichi in the bungalow of the Zamindar;

(*g*) whether it is a fact that during his stay at the said village, the said Revenue Divisional Officer threatened the ryots with serious consequences if they did not act according to the wishes of the Zamindar of Udayarpalayam;

(*h*) if so, what the justification was for this conduct of the Revenue Divisional Officer; and

(*i*) what action the Government propose to take against such conduct?

A.—The Government have no information on the definite points raised in the question but are aware that there have been differences between the Zamindar and some of his tenants, and that District Officers have given their assistance to prevent disturbance of the public peace. The Government have however, no reason to suppose that local officers have acted in a manner unfair to the tenants.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether the Government will call for information on the various points raised in the question and take such action as is necessary in the circumstances?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I will draw the attention of the Board of Revenue to the question and the answer given here."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Are the Government aware that both the Revenue Divisional Officer and the District Magistrate are taking sides and supporting the zamindar against the tenants?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir. I have no reason whatever to suppose that. We have had some information as to the action taken by the Sub-Collector and the District Magistrate to maintain the public peace in that district. There is no reason to suppose that they were acting in the interests of the zamindar; on the other hand our information is that the zamindar has given certain concessions to the ryots."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Is the hon. the Revenue Member aware that the criminal proceedings launched by the Divisional Magistrate and the police against some of the tenants were quashed by the hon. Mr. Justice Jackson as being based on frivolous grounds . . . ?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I do not think the hon. Member should refer to the proceedings of the High Court as frivolous."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"I mean to say that the criminal proceedings were quashed by the High Court on the ground that they were instituted against the tenants at the instigation of the zamindar on frivolous grounds?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I should like to have notice of the question."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Is the hon. the Revenue Member aware that the zamindar in question is alleged to be an intimate friend of the District Magistrate of Trichinopoly and that he has subscribed Rs. 10,000 to a club in which the District Magistrate is interested?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"No, Sir."

24th March 1932]

Medical Administration

Admission of picketers into the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, for injuries sustained.

* 1209 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Duggappa Suvarna and other peaceful picketers were admitted into the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, with injuries due to beating by the Police on the 24th February 1932; if so, whether their injuries and their condition were recorded in the accident register maintained in the hospital; and

(*b*) whether the hon. the Minister will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House with a statement from the District Medical Officer, regarding the severity of the injuries inflicted and their approximate number?

A.—(*a*) Duggappa Suvarna and two others were admitted in the Wenlock Hospital, Mangalore, on the 24th February 1932. Their injuries were recorded in the accident register.

(*b*) The accident register is a confidential document and an extract from it cannot be laid on the table. In the opinion of the District Medical Officer the injuries were not serious.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" The Accident Register may be a confidential document, but what about the statement of the District Medical Officer ? Does it not say that the injuries were numerous and that they were serious ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" We have not got the statement of the Medical Officer. We have the report of the Surgeon-General in which he says that in the opinion of the Superintendent of the hospital the injuries were not serious."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" Does not the Accident Register say that innumerable injuries were counted and they were of a serious nature ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" I have said that the register itself is confidential. I am sorry I cannot give the information."

Mr. C. R. Parthasarathi Ayyangar:—" What is the provision of law under which the Accident Register is considered confidential? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" Under the Civil Medical Code."

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" Will the hon. Minister call for a statement from the Medical Officer and place it on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu:—" Yes, Sir, I shall consider the suggestion."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" May I know how the Civil Medical Code applies to this? What is the provision of law under which the Accident Register is treated as confidential?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The register is maintained under the rules framed by the Government which are embodied in the Civil Medical Code. According to those rules, this register is a confidential document and extracts from it can be given only to Police officers."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" If the document can be produced in a court of law, how can it be called a confidential document?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" The Government have rules for the purpose. Extracts from it will be given to a Police officer for the purposes of court."

Mr. C. R. PARTHASARATHI AYYANGAR:—" Under what provision of law is this considered to be a privileged document?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" There is no question of privileged document. Under the rules, extracts can be given to a Police officer for the purposes of court. In that case there is no question of privileged document."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Suppose the other side wants extracts?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—" I think they can get it through the court."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" Then, it would not be a confidential document."

Dispensing with the services of Junior Assistant Surgeons.

* 1210 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Surgeon-General has served notice on several temporary Junior Assistant Surgeons with the latest qualifications that their services will be terminated as a measure of retrenchment; and

(*b*) whether the Government have examined the point that it will not lead to efficiency and economy if the senior men with 28 years' service and above are sent on leave preparatory to retirement and retired after 30 years of service and if these juniors are employed?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) As there is a sanctioned leave reserve the mere sending on long leave of men with 28 years' service and more other than those selected for retrenchment under G.O. No. 1176, Public (Services), dated 18th November 1931 (which has already been placed on the table of the House) will not mean the employment of more juniors than would otherwise be the case.

24th March 1932]

Selection of students for the examination for Diploma of Licentiate Medical Practitioner.

* 1211 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the minimum required is for a pass for qualifying for the Diploma of Licentiate Medical Practitioner;

(*b*) whether and if so, how many class examinations were held in 1931 in the Lady Willingdon Medical School;

(*c*) whether and if so, what principle is observed by the Superintendent in the matter of detaining pupils from appearing for the Board Examination;

(*d*) whether any meeting of the staff was held for the purpose of selecting students to appear for the Board Examination held in April 1932 and whether the Professors were given any opportunity to discuss the cases of the students detained; and

(*e*) whether it was usual to hold a staff meeting for the purpose of selection in previous years and if so, why no such meeting was held this year?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to rule (*c*) of the L.M.P. Rules.

(*b*) *to* (*e*) The Government have no information. It has been called for.

Detention of pupils in Lady Willingdon Medical School.

* 1212 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any rules have been issued by the Government in respect of detaining pupils in the Lady Willingdon Medical School; if so, when the rules were issued;

(*b*) whether they were in force in October 1931;

(*c*) whether the rules were observed in the Lady Wellingdon Medical School prior to 1932; and

(*d*) if there was any detention of boys in the Medical School at Rayapuram?

A.—(*a*) Yes. In 1928.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) *&* (*d*) The Government have no information. It has been called for.

Alleged petitions regarding the treatment given to Hindu pupils of Lady Willingdon Medical School.

* 1213 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received petitions alleging that the Hindu pupils of the Lady Willingdon Medical School are not being

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* Printed as Appendix IX on page 1009 infra.

treated properly by the Superintendent and that the present Superintendent of the Lady Willingdon Medical School revives forgotten rules and applies them very strictly to block the admission and the progress of Hindu pupils while she is free in making exceptions in the case of pupils of other communities; and

(b) what action the Government propose to take thereon?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The question does not arise.

Lady Willingdon Medical School, Madras.

* 1214 *Q.*—B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women, three girls who passed in the selection examination have nevertheless been detained without being sent up for the Board Examination;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that two of the girls so detained are Brahmans ;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that there is a widespread complaint against the present Superintendent that she has a dislike for girls wearing jewels, kunkum and coloured sarees ;

(*d*) how many (1) Brahman, (2) non-Brahman, (3) Muslim and (4) Christian girls are studying at present in the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women ; and

(*e*) whether the Government have taken any steps to guarantee adequate number of seats to candidates of those communities among whom education of women in Medicine is not sufficiently popular ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The Government have no information. A report has been called for in the matter.

(*e*) As the Lady Willingdon Medical School, Madras, is intended exclusively for lady students, the Government are of opinion that candidates should experience no difficulty in securing admission to the school, no matter to what communities they belong. The Government do not therefore consider it necessary to take any special steps to safeguard the interests of the candidates from communities which are backward in female education.

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" May I know whether the number of applicants is more than the number of seats available ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" Perhaps so. I cannot say definitely.'

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI :—" If that is so, what objection has the hon. Minister to reserve certain number of seats for particular communities ? "

24th March 1932]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU:—"If there is any difficulty for students of any particular community to get admission to the College, and if specific instances are brought to the notice of Government, they will consider the question of reserving seats for particular communities."

Transfer of the clerical establishment of District Medical Offices.

* 1215 *Q.*—Mr. G. SIMHACHALAM PANTULU: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government will be pleased to place a copy of G.O. No. 1046, P.H., dated 18th April 1929, on the table of this House;

(*b*) the number of transfers effected as a result of G.O. No. 1046, P.H., dated 18th April 1929;

(*c*) whether the Government have since modified any portion of the Government Order referred to; if so, what the principle enunciated in it is;

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased also to place copy of the modified Government Order on the table; and

(*e*) how many transfers were effected as a result of the said modified Government Order?

A.—(*a*) A copy[a] of G.O. No. 1046, P.H., dated 18th April 1929, is placed on the table.

(*b*) Seventeen.

(*c*) & (*d*) The orders in the Government Order referred to have been modified in the following Government Orders:—

(i) No. 1122, P.H., dated 22nd June 1931.

(ii) No. 1283, P.H., dated 16th July 1931.

A copy of G.O. No. 1122, P.H., dated 22nd June 1931, has already been placed on the table of the House with reference to clause (*b*) of question No. 539 answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 3rd November 1931. A copy[a] of the other order is now placed on the table.

(*e*) Three.

Education

Thefts and burglary in the Queen Mary's College, Madras.

* 1216 *Q.*—Mr. V. T. ARASU: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there have been many cases of theft and burglary in the Madras Queen Mary's College within the current academic year;

(*b*) the total value of the articles lost as a result of the same;

(*c*) whether the bolts and latches of the doors broke open by the burglars have since been repaired or replaced by the Principal of the College; and

(*d*) if they have not been, why not?

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[a] Printed as Appendix X on pages 1009—1011 infra.

A.—(*a*) Yes; four cases of theft and a case of an unsuccessful attempt at burglary.

(*b*) Rupees 230 in sarees and Rs. 40 in cash.

(*c*) No bolts or latches were broken ; the wire netting of an outer door was cut through in the attempted burglary in August last. It has since been repaired by the Public Works Department.

(*d*) Does not arise.

Mr. V. T. Arasu :—" May I know when these were repaired—was it after the receipt of this question ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I do not think they wanted inspiration from an hon. Member of this House to make a repair like this."

Employment of students passed out of the Government Institute of Commerce at Madras and Calicut.

* 1217 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have information that all the students that passed out of the Government Institute of Commerce, Madras, and Government School of Commerce at Calicut have been able to secure employment ;

(*b*) if not, whether the Government will call for the information and place the same on the table ; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to retain all or any of the Institutions at Madras and at Calicut ?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) The Government do not consider that the time and labour involved in collecting the information will be commensurate with the results.

(*c*) The question is under consideration.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" Has the hon. Minister satisfied himself that all the students passed out of these two commercial institutes have found employment ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" I cannot say. We have no information. The gathering of this information will involve an amount of time and labour that the Government do not think it necessary to do that."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" In view of the fact that all the rules regarding the commerce course are under revision by the Accountancy Board, will the Government please stay its hands and not abolish the two institutes at Calicut and Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar :—" Notice, Sir."

Fisheries

Proposed abolition of the post of Assistant Director of Marine.

* 1218 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have decided to dispose of the trawler "Lady Goschen" and abolish the post of the Assistant Director of Marine;

(*b*) whether the trawler is in a fit condition for sale;

(*c*) whether any expenditure has been incurred for its repairs and its maintenance since it was last disabled;

(*d*) what is the total cost of repairs up to date;

(*e*) whether the Assistant Director (Marine) was employed on other duty during the period the trawler has not been working;

(*f*) what steps the Government propose to adopt to carry on the work the trawler was expected to do; and

(*g*) whether the post of the Assistant Biologist was created in connexion with work on the trawler?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The boiler requires repairs. The Government have, however, decided to sell her in her present condition for what she will fetch.

		RS.
(*c*) Yes.	Expenditure on repairs	5,181
	Do. on maintenance	6,268

(*d*) Rs. 35,944.

(*e*) He was engaged in ascertaining the repairs needed and the cost of repairing or replacing the boiler. He has completely cleaned and painted the vessel as a preliminary to her being surveyed with a view to determining how long she will be fit for work.

(*f*) The work will have to be abandoned.

(*g*) The post of Assistant Biologist was created for work on the trawler as well as at the two research stations at Calicut and Krusadai.

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—"Does the Government propose to purchase a new trawler?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"There is no such proposal."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"When was the expenditure on repairs and maintenance incurred?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice, Sir"

[24th March 1932

European Education

Montford European Boys' School, Yercaud.

* 1219 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total expenditure and receipts by the Montford School at Yercaud in Salem for the last five years is;

(*b*) what the amount of Government grant both recurring and non-recurring paid to that institution for the last five years is;

(*c*) how much amount has been spent by the management for the construction of the new building which is nearing completion now; and

(*d*) what the grant paid by Government towards the construction of the building is?

A.—(*a*)—

	Receipts.	Expenditure.
	RS.	RS.
1926–27	52,342	61,206
1927–28	49,757	71,558
1928–29	54,936	88,578
1929–30	50,814	72,584
1930–31	49,303	1,06,491

(*b*)—

	Grants.	
	Recurring.	Non-recurring.
	RS.	RS.
1927–28	4,783	1,464
1928–29	5,135	3,313
1929–30	5,072	990
1930–31	5,349	451
1931–32	5,631	16,000

(*c*) Rs. 72,155 according to the latest report of the Executive Engineer, Salem Division.

(*d*) The building scheme is eligible for a grant of one-half of the cost not exceeding Rs. 50,000. The grant paid so far is Rs. 16,000.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" Generally the expenditure is found to exceed the receipt. May I know what is the arrangement made by the management to make good the balance? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The whole scheme costs a lakh of rupees. The Government will grant up to Rs. 50,000."

24th March 1932]

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—"That is with regard to the new building. What I ask is with regard to the expenditure generally. While the receipts in 1930-31 were only Rs. 49,303 the expenditure is noted as Rs. 1,06,491. I like to know what the management has done to make good the deficit?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I must make enquiries, Sir. We have nothing to do with private institutions and we don't know what they do to make good the balance."

Law and Order

Enquiry by the Commissioner of Police in re. *the beating of Messrs. Subba Rao and Ramaswami.*

*1220 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the date on which the enquiry by the Commissioner of Police regarding the beating by the Police of Messrs. Khasa Subba Rao and O. P. Ramaswami began;

(*b*) who the witnesses are that have been examined;

(*c*) whether any notification was issued to the public calling upon eye-witnesses and give evidence in the enquiry;

(*d*) whether the enquiry has been finished, if not, when it is likely to finish;

(*e*) whether the report of the hospital authorities regarding the injuries has been received and whether it will be placed on the table; and

(*f*) whether the hon. the Home Member or the Chief Secretary visited the injured in the hospital and sent their opinions to the Commissioner of Police?

A.—(*a*) 28th February 1932.

(*b*) Including the two persons in question 27 witnesses were examined of whom 17 were non-official eye-witnesses. The Government do not think it desirable to disclose their names.

(*c*) No. The Commissioner of Police examined a number of shop-keepers living in the vicinity and various people who were passing or trying to pass at the time of the incident.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Extracts from the accident register maintained in the Government General Hospital have been received, but the register being a confidential document the Government regret that the extracts cannot be placed on the table of the House.

(*f*) No.

[24th March 1932

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether the enquiry was a public or private one ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " The enquiry was not open to the public; but it was held by the Commissioner of Police."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Were non-officials also asked to give their opinion ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Yes, it is so stated in the answer."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" May I know whether Messrs. K. Subba Rao and Ramaswami were present when the enquiry was held ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I am not aware of it. I must enquire. Perhaps they were in the hospital at the time."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Is it a fact that some bus-owners and drivers were asked to give evidence in the matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I am unable to say anything at present, because the report of the Commissioner is under the consideration of the Government."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to find that out and give the information to me and to the House later ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Yes, Sir."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" With reference to the answer to clause (*e*), may I ask why, if the accident register is a confidential document, the extracts from it cannot be placed on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Because the extracts too are confidential."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" How are the wounds caused to these persons confidential ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Because that is the rule. The hon. the Chief Minister referred to it the other day."

B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur:—" Is it confidential with reference to this House also ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " Yes, Sir."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—" Was the Under Secretary of the Public Department of the Government also one of the witnesses examined by the Commissioner of Police ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— " I do not think so."

24th March 1932]

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan:—"As the hon. the Home Member is aware, he was by accident present there and he saw the severe beating received by these gentlemen and the serious injuries caused to them; why did not the Commissioner of Police examine him also as a witness?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— "Because the Commissioner did not think it necessary."

Investigation about the beating of Mr. K. Subba Rao and Mr. O. P. Ramaswami Ayyangar.

*1221 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the investigation by Mr. Rowlandson about the beating of Mr. K. Subba Rao and Mr. O. P. Ramaswami Ayyangar by the City Police has been completed and whether he has made his report; and

(*b*) whether the Government have passed any orders on it, if so, what they are?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Report of the Commissioner of Police is still under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"May I know if the report is still under the consideration of the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— "Yes."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"If so, why was Mr. Currie transferred?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— "I have already stated that the Commissioner of Police took that action pending his enquiry."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—"Is it not unfair to that officer to transfer him while the report is still under the consideration of the Government?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— "No, Sir. It is open to the Commissioner of Police to do that."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"Was the transfer of Mr. Currie intended to express the displeasure of Government against his conduct?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— "I am not prepared to say anything more on the matter as the Government have not yet come to a decision on the report."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I know whether the transfer was merely by accident or of set purpose?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:— "I have nothing to add to what I have already said."

[24th March 1932

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I know if any action has been taken against Mr. Butler who was responsible for the excessive beating ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "The Government have not yet come to any decision on the report of the Commissioner."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" But how did the Government come to a decision with regard to one particular officer only ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "Because the Commissioner thought that the beating was severe and that the inspector should be transferred, he transferred the inspector."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Did Mr. Currie apply for a transfer ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "No, Sir."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—" What about the report? Is it going to be published or not ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "The Government have not yet finished consideration of the report."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER:—" May I ask whether the report of the Commissioner tallies with the report of the hospital authorities with regard to the nature of the beating ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I cannot say, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Was Colonel Skinner who was in charge of these patients examined ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— "I cannot say, Sir."

Enquiry by the Commissioner of Police in re *Messrs. Subba Rao and Ramaswami.*

* 1222 *Q.*—Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has received the report from the Commissioner of Police on the enquiry held over the beating of Messrs. Khasa Subba Rao and O. P. Ramaswami;

(*b*) whether he will be pleased to lay this report on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action he proposes to take on the report?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1221.

24th March 1932]

Alleged irregularities on the part of Mr. Dodwell, I.C.S., Subdivisional Magistrate, Tellicherry.

* 1223 *Q.*—Mr. K. P. Raman Menon: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Mr. Dodwell made certain women whom he convicted with imprisonment till the rising of the Court stand facing the wall of his Court-building pinned between two constables standing on either side armed with canes, also telling them that they would be beaten if they made the slightest movement;

(*b*) whether in one such instance when a woman in moving one of her arms made a jingling noise on account of her bracelets, he ordered the woman to fold her hands behind her and hold them folded until she was removed from Court;

(*c*) under what provision of law these acts were done;

(*d*) whether the same officer asked Mrs. Prabhu whom he convicted what she would do if the Police raped her while in the lock-up;

(*e*) whether the said officer used the word 'rape' in this connection to Mrs. Prabhu;

(*f*) whether Mrs. Prabhu was sent to Vellore Jail in a third class compartment in which the sole occupants besides her were two constables;

(*g*) whether Mrs. Pavamany, Kunhikavamma and Padmavathi Amma were also similarly sent to Vellore accompanied by two sergeants; and

(*h*) whether the Government will be pleased to order that female prisoners when sent to jail be accompanied by female warders during their journey?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Two women who were sentenced to imprisonment till the rising of the court were asked to stand facing the wall of the court-room just below the dais for a short time. They were not told that they would be beaten and constables were not posted on either side of them. Two constables forming the escort of the prisoners stood at the entrance of the court-room. The women were asked to fold their arms behind as they were fidgetting.

(*c*) There is no provision of law on the subject. All Magistrates have power to maintain order in the precincts of their courts. The Government consider that in the circumstances it was unnecessary for the Joint Magistrate to order the women to fold their arms behind.

(*d*) & (*e*) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the Press Communiqué,[a] dated 22nd February 1932, of which a copy is attached.

(*f*) Mrs. Prabhu was sent to Vellore in a third-class compartment with two constables. The Government have no information whether these three persons were the only occupants of the compartment.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XI on page 1012 infra.

[24th March 1932

(g) They were sent under the escort of one sergeant and two constables. Another sergeant travelled in the same compartment from Calicut to Podanur on other duty.

(h) The Police department arranges for the escort of prisoners to jail from the court of conviction and the Jail department for the escort of convicts from one jail to another. In the latter case the Jail Manual provides that female prisoners should ordinarily be accompanied by female warders. There is no female Police staff for the escort of prisoners to jail from court. The question of empolying women Police was considered by the Government in 1928, 1930, 1931 and early this year but was given up as neither expedient nor necessary. The Government are not prepared to reopen the question at present.

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon :—" In answer to clauses (d) and (e), the Government say:

'These remarks were misunderstood to imply some kind of threat of molestation by the Police which was not in any way the intention of the Magistrate, and was not the impression made on the minds of persons present in Court who have been examined by the District Magistrate.'

" May I know the names of persons who were present in Court on whose minds such an impression was not made ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" I have answered that question already, Sir. Mr. De Cruz was one of them. Then, there were two clerks, an inspector and a sub-inspector."

Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar :—" With reference to the answer to clause (a), may I ask the hon. the Home Member in what year of grace did these things happen ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" The hon. Member knows it as well as myself."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon :—" Will the Government be pleased to to ascertain whether the statement made by me in clause (f) is a fact or not ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" Yes, Sir."

-15 Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I ask why the Government
.m. did not send a lady to escort these prisoners to the Vellore Jail ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur :—" There is no woman in the Police Department."

Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan :—" May I know whether generally women escorts are sent when lady prisoners are transferred from one jail to another ? "

24th March 1932]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"That is a matter for the Jail Department; it is the Jail Department that orders the transfer of prisoners from one jail to another."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I enquire in whose charge these prisoners are when they are taken from one jail to another?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"They are in charge of the Police."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state in whose charge Mrs. Prabhu was when she was taken to the Vellore Jail?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"In charge of the Police."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I ask why then the hon. Home Member says that it is the Jail Department that is responsible for this?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Jail Department orders escort for prisoners in jail."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know why this lady was not accompanied by a lady escort?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Because we don't employ lady escort; the Government had no idea that ladies would take part in the civil disobedience movement."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I enquire whether, in view of the fact that a number of ladies belonging to respectable families are convicted, arrangements will be made for women warders escorting these prisoners?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"The Government must consider that question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"Will the hon. Home Member be pleased to state why lady escorts were not sent with these lady prisoners in this case, while such arrangements are made in other districts?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I must ask for notice of the question if it refers to other districts."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"It is stated in the Communiqué on the matter found in the appendix that a number of advocates were present in the Court at that time. May I enquire whether they were examined in the matter?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I must ask for notice of the question."

[24th March 1932

Convictions for political offences.

* 1224 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the number of persons arrested and convicted in each district in this Presidency on political grounds since January 1932 is (separate figures for males and females may be furnished); and

(*b*) how many of them have been placed in 'A' class, how many in 'B' class and how many in 'C' class in each of the districts?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Presumably the hon. Member refers to persons convicted for offences in connexion with the civil disobedience movement. The information required by clause (*a*) of the question is given, up to the middle of March, in Statement I [a] appended. That required by clause (*b*) is given, up to the middle of February, in Statement II [a] appended; it is regretted that separate figures for men and women are not available with the Government.

Number of persons convicted in connexion with the civil disobedience movement, etc.

* 1225 *Q.*—Mr. K. R. VENKATARAMA AYYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what the total number of persons is so far convicted in the Presidency for offences committed in connexion with the civil disobedience movement since the commencement of this year and how many of them are now in jail and how they have been classified?

A.—The number of convictions in connexion with civil disobedience movement since the beginning of this year up to the middle of March is 1,425. The number of persons actually undergoing imprisonment at the end of February 1932 was 1,244. The figures in regard to the classification of prisoners up to 15th February 1932 were as follows:—

A class	26
B class	125
C class	983

The civil disobedience movement.

* 1226 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any instructions have been given by the Inspector-General of Police to the Collectors of districts or Superintendents of Police regarding the methods to be adopted and the manner in which the Police are to act, to combat the civil disobedience movement either officially or demi-officially or through ordinary or code telegrams between the 27th December 1931 and 15th January 1932;

[a] Printed as Appendix XII on pages 1013–1014 infra.

24th March 1932]

(*b*) whether the said instructions or those issued later direct that the Police should use the full or maximum force against civil resisters and picketers, etc.;

(*c*) will the hon. Member be pleased to place a copy of all the instructions regarding the putting down of the Civil Disobedience Movement issued by the Inspector-General of Police, to the district officers on the table of the House; and

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the instructions to heads of districts regarding the measures to put down Civil Disobedience are sent by the Inspector-General of Police and not by the Government?

A.—(*a*) The Inspector-General has no authority to issue instructions to District Magistrates. Copies of the Government's instructions to District Magistrates are sent to the Inspector-General who issues such orders as he may consider necessary to District Superintendents of Police in conformity therewith.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) No.

Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt:—" With reference to answer (*b*), will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact or not that the District Magistrates have been instructed either by the Government or by the Inspector-General of Police to use the maximum amount of force ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" No, Sir."

Use of maximum force in dispersing unlawful assemblies.

* 1227 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that instructions issued by the Inspector-General of Police regarding the use of force in dispersing unlawful assemblies advocate the use of maximum force as opposed to the minimum force, which the hon. the Home Member said in the House as having been ordered by the Government;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the *Police Gazette*, dated 30th August 1931, on mob charge directs all policemen to charge with lathis with full force on face and neck;

(*c*) if so, who issued the said instructions and what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken against the person who had issued the said instructions contrary to the orders from Government to use minimum force; and

(*d*) when he proposes to answer my question No. 1198, dated 27th January 1932, and why it has not yet been answered?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*). The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1049.

(*d*) The question was answered on the 18th March 1932.

The All-India Swadeshi Exhibition held at Madras.

* 1228 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any licence was granted to the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition held by the Madras Mahajana Sabha in January 1932, by the Commissioner of Police, Madras. If so, in whose favour was it granted;

(*b*) for what period was the licence granted and when it was due to expire;

(*c*) If a licence was granted for the running of the Exhibition, whether notice was given to that individual or body holding the licence before the Exhibition was taken possession of by the Police;

(*d*) whether at the time when the Exhibition was interfered with by the Police and the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Mr. C. Venkatarangam Nayudu, ex-M.L.C., protested against the seizure on the ground that the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition was in charge of the premises and that it was not a Congress organization;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that on this protest the Chief Presidency Magistrate went to consult the hon. the Law Member; and

(*f*) if so, what was the consultation about and what was the advice given by the hon. the Law Member to the Chief Presidency Magistrate?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) A licence was granted for a period of one month ending 15th January 1932 in favour of the Secretary of the Exhibition.

(*c*) No. No notice was necessary for taking possession of a place notified under section 3 (1) of the Unlawful Association Ordinance.

(*d*) Mr. C. Venkatarangam Nayudu was not present at the Exhibition grounds when the Chief Presidency Magistrate entered the "Congress House" to take possession of the place and the movable property found therein.

(*e*) The Chief Presidency Magistrate consulted the hon. the Law Member on his own initiative. Mr. Venkatarangam Nayudu saw the Chief Presidency Magistrate afterwards.

(*f*) The Chief Presidency Magistrate consulted the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Home Member about the release of the articles in the stalls of the Exhibition. The Chief Presidency Magistrate was ordered to release those articles.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—"May I ask, Sir, why, when the licence to hold the exhibition was given to the Secretary of the Exhibition and when the Secretary of the Exhibition was actually in charge of the Congress House temporarily, no notice was given to him to quit or take away his properties and hand over the building to the Police?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—"Under the Ordinance, no notice is necessary."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know whether the licence was cancelled before the Police took action in the matter ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " No necessity to cancel the licence."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Secretary of the Exhibition, from whom the property was taken possession of, was declared a member of an unlawful assembly ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " The Congress House was declared to belong to an unlawful association."

Seizure of account books and records of the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition.

* 1229 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that all the account books and records of the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition, Madras, held last January 1932 and also that of the Madras Mahajana Sabha were seized by the Police in spite of protests ;

(*b*) whether the books have been since returned or not ; and

(*c*) if not, when they will be returned and what the reason is for this delay ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) Certain records including account books which were found along with other movable property in " Congress House ", General Patters Road, Madras, a place notified under section 3 (1) of the Unlawful Association Ordinance, 1932, were taken possession of under section 4 (1) of the Ordinance. The Government have already ordered the return of the items of property belonging to the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition. Certain items of property alleged to belong to the Madras Mahajana Sabha have been ordered to remain in the possession of the Government with reference to section 4 (3) of the Ordinance. If any person having proper authority applies for the return of these items, the request will be considered.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I enquire whether the Government will return the properties, account books and articles in their custody, on an application from the Secretary of the Mahajana Sabha ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I shall consider the suggestion."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Was it in pursuance of any law that the Chief Presidency Magistrate was ordered to return some of the articles belonging to the Exhibition ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Because some of the properties did not belong to the Congress House but to the stall-keepers."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Was it done in pursuance of any law ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB *Bahadur* :—" Because some of the properties did not belong to the Congress House."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" What is the authority of the Government for interfering with the jurisdiction vested in the Chief Presidency Magistrate ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I did not interfere with the discretion of the Chief Presidency Magistrate. He asked for orders."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI :—" Did the Chief Presidency Magistrate act on the advice of the hon. the Home Member ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" He acted on the orders of the Government."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know why the Government seized properties that did not belong to the Congress House ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" This question has been asked times without number and I have already answered it."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I ask whether the Secretary has already applied for the return of these articles ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

The All-India Swadeshi Exhibition.

* *1230 Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether at the time the police and the Chief Presidency Magistrate took possession of the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition in the Congress House any inventory of the articles found in and about the premises was taken ;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the same was furnished to the persons from whom the articles were seized ; and

(*c*) if not, why no inventory was taken and why the same was not supplied to the parties affected ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) *&* (*c*) A list of the movable property found in the " Congress House," a place notified under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Unlawful Association Ordinance, was taken by the Chief Presidency Magistrate. A copy of the list was not supplied because no one asked for a copy of it and there is no obligation under the Ordinance to furnish copies. A list of the articles on the stalls of the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition was not made ; these articles were returned shortly after the occupation of the building.

24th March 1932]

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I enquire why no inventory was taken of the articles in the stalls of the All-India Swadeshi Exhibition ?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" There is no necessity for taking an inventory."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" May I know whether the rules of procedure do not require the taking of an inventory at the time of seizure and whether they are applied only in certain cases and not in others?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—
" I have already answered that question."

Forfeiture of the funds of the Khadder Vastralaya at Tinnevelly.

*1231 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have issued G.O. Ms. No. 194, Public (General), dated 4th February 1932, declaring that the sum of Rs. 138–4–0 seized by the Police from the cash-box of the Khadder Vastralaya, Tinnevelly Town, of the All-India Spinners Association is intended to be used for the purpose of an unlawful Association, viz., the Tinnevelly District Congress Committee and forfeiting the amount to His Majesty under section 7 of Ordinance No. IV of 1932;

(*b*) whether the Government have laid down any policy as to (i) the form, nature and judicial character or otherwise of the enquiry; (ii) the personnel of the enquiring officer ; (iii) any review or revision of the enquiring officer's report by a trained judicial officer ;

(*c*) whether any enquiry was made in the above case and whether the Government will be pleased to place the papers relating to the same on the table ;

(*d*) who made the enquiry and whether notice of the same was given to the manager of the Vastralaya ; and

(*e*) whether the enquiring officer has ascertained by reference to the account books of the Vastralaya whether a sum of Rs. 44–2–1 is the money of the Vastralaya as claimed on behalf of the same and the balance is private money in the hands of the manager of the Vastralaya?

A.—(*a*) The Government Order quoted declared the sum of Rupees 138–4–0 found in the possession of Subrahmanya Ayyar, the manager of the Khadder Vastralayam, Tinnevelly Town, to be forfeited to His Majesty.

(*b*) The Unlawful Association Ordinance is sufficiently clear as it stands and does not require to be supplemented by instructions.

(*c*), (*d*) & (*e*) In the course of a police search of the Khadi Vastralaya, Tinnevelly Town, on a warrant issued by the Sub-divisional Magistrate, Tinnevelly, in Crime No. 5/32 of the Tinnevelly Town station, a sum of Rs. 138–4–0 was seized from Subrahmanya Ayyar, the manager of the Vastralayam, who admitted that it had been handed over to

him by one T. R. Mahadeva Ayyar for the purpose of meeting the expenses of Congress volunteers. No mention was made at the time of the search of the story subsequently put forward by the manager of the Vastralayam to the effect that a sum of Rs. 44-2-1 belonged to the shop and that the balance was his private money.

Suppression of the Civil Disobedience Movement.

* 1232 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) to what extent and how far has the local Government succeeded in suppressing the Civil Disobedience Movement and all forms of picketing and boycott;

(*b*) whether any programme has been drawn up for this purpose;

(*c*) what the total amount hitherto incurred is in such suppression, from what sources and what its details are; and

(*d*) whether, and if so, when, the Government propose to withdraw the extension of the Ordinances and divert the Police force to its normal activities?

A.—(*a*) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the various Communiqués that the Government have issued from time to time.

(*b*) The Government have issued such instructions for dealing with the movement as they deemed necessary.

(*c*) The Government are unable to supply detailed information at this stage.

(*d*) The Government can make no statement as to their future intentions so long as the civil disobedience movement continues.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state when the Government propose to put an end to all this turmoil in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" When my hon. Friends opposite advise the Congress to stop Civil Disobedience."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" I do not know, Sir, if the hon. Member is justified in trying to establish a connexion between the Opposition and the Congress. I think the implication is thoroughly unjustifiable and I ask him to withdraw his remark."

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I do not think the hon. Member meant anything serious."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" It is a serious thing."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" Why should he ask us to give advice to the Congress ? "

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" The Congress has been declared unlawful; we have not been so declared. "

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The only interpretation I put on the reply of the hon. Home Member is that hon. Members may give advice to the Congress. There is no serious implication at all in the answer. If the Opposition put any such serious implication, I do not think they are quite right."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " Nothing more than that, Sir. The Congress may be advised even by the hon. Members on this side of the House."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" To ask the Members here to advise the Congress is thoroughly unjustifiable."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I ask whether the hon. Home Member will put a stop to all the molestation and beating of the people and then ask us to advise the Congressmen ? "

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—" Why should the hon. Home Member take advice from wrong quarters and ask the Opposition to advise the Congress ? Will he stop that practice and give an opportunity to advise the Government as well as the Congress ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " I do not think I need answer that question."

Charges made by the Police against Dr. Paton.

* 1233 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the charges framed against Dr. Paton by the Police in the case filed against him under the Molestation Ordinance; and

(*b*) the reasons for which the prosecution was subsequently withdrawn?

A.—(*a*) A charge sheet was laid by the Police under sections 3-B and 4 of the Prevention of Molestation and Boycotting Ordinance, 1932.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Commissioner's Proceedings, dated 26th January 1932, a copy of which was annexed to the answer to clause (i) (*b*) of question No. 1096.

Excessive use of force by the Police.

* 1234 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether as the result of enquiry, Government have found any instances of excessive use of force by the Police since January this year; and

(*b*) whether in any such case Government have so far taken any disciplinary action?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1111.

[24th March 1932

Alleged Police excesses in Rajahmundry on or about 24th January 1932.

* 1235 *Q.*—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that on or about 24th January 1932 Mr. Venneti Satyanarayana of Rajahmundry was beaten, chased, threatened and not allowed to get even a jutka, because he was hawking khaddar and distributing handbills on swadeshi, after obtaining permission from the Subdivisional officer;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware that his brother-in-law Mr. Bhagavan Narayana was also dragged and beaten;

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Achaty Ramunayya of Rajahmundry, an old gentleman of 60 years, was beaten by the Police causing a fracture in the leg and that he was treated in the hospital;

(*d*) whether the Government are aware that Mr. Nallam Bheema Raju and Dr. Subrahmanyan of the Sitanagram Ashram were called out of their houses and beaten severely for no offence and that each of them had fractures as a result of severe beating;

(*e*) whether the Government are aware that a relation of Mr. Bheemaraju and another gentleman of Rajahmundry who were wearing khaddar were forced to burn their khaddar clothes with their own hands, and were made to buy foreign cloth and wear it then and there ; and

(*f*) whether the Government are aware that the Police broke into pieces the looms, charkas and the furniture in the Sitanagram Ashram when they took possession of the same ?

A.—(*a*) Mr. Venneti Satyanarayana sustained some injuries in the course of the dispersal by the Police of him and certain others in front of a shop in Rajahmundry dealing in foreign goods. He was not chased or threatened. No 'permission' such as that referred to was given by any Magistrate.

(*b*) Mr. Bhagavan Narayana was one of the persons dispersed along with Mr. Satyanarayana.

(*c*) He was also one of those who were dispersed. The Government understand that he sustained a fractured tibia.

(*d*) The matter is *sub judice*.

(*e*) The Government have no information and have called for it.

(*f*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to Question No. 1051. No articles of furniture were broken. They are in the possession of Government.

Alleged excessive use of force by the Police in Malabar.

* 1236 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have recently received a letter signed by several leading persons in Malabar including Mr. K. P. Raman Menon, M.L.C., alleging that unnecessary force has been used on various

24th March 1932]

occasions by the Police in Malabar and that persons arrested for picketing, etc., are beaten and otherwise harshly treated by the Police while in the lock-up;

(b) whether a copy of the letter will be placed on the table of the House; and

(c) whether any inquiry has been made in regard to these allegations and any action taken in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) A copy[a] of the letter is laid on the table.

(c) The letter contains no specific allegations capable of proof or disproof. The Government will make enquiries into any specific allegations made against the conduct of officers.

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" May I know whether a deputation headed by my hon. Friend, Mr. Raman Menon, waited on him, whether specific allegations of definite incidents were brought to his notice in writing, and what action he took in respect of the cases which were brought to his notice and with what result? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" We have called for a report; I understand that that report has reached the Government. The Government have not yet considered the report."

Mr. K. P. RAMAN MENON:—" May I ask whether any statements were taken from the volunteers and what action has been taken on those statements ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The report of the District Magistrate has reached the Government and they have not yet dealt with the report."

B. POCKER SAHIB Bahadur:—" Have not the Government looked into the report at all? "

Alleged police excesses in South Kanara.

* 1237 Q.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether he has received complaints against recent police excesses in South Kanara signed by some of the leading vakils of Kasaragod; if so, whether he will be pleased to place a copy of the same on the table of the House; and

(b) what action has been taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

A.—(a) Yes; a copy [b] of the letter received by the Government is laid on the table of the House.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XIII on pages 1014–1015 infra.

[b] Printed as Appendix XIV on page 1016 infra.

[24th March 1932

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state why the names and designations of those who sent these reports have not been given in the appendix?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I shall enquire."

Alleged beating of non-picketers at Pilicode.

* 1238 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received last month a petition signed by about fifteen vakils of Kasaragod and some merchants of Kanhangad about the beating of non-picketers at Pilicode on 11th February 1931;

(*b*) whether a copy of it will be placed on the table of the House; and

(*c*) whether any inquiry has been made and if so, with what result?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to Question No. 1237.

Alleged intimidation by the Gudivada Police.

* 1239 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Gudivada people are being threatened by the Deputy Magistrate and the Police with beating with lathis, for wearing Gandhi caps and for shouting 'Gandhi-ki-Jai'?

A.—No.

Alleged lathi charge by the Gudivada Police.

* 1240 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that

(*a*) the coolies working in the garden of Mr Parvathaneni Bhushayya an ex M.L.C. just close to the said Erneni Subrahmanyam's sibiram, were daily called out by the Police, insulted, beaten and dispersed; and

(*b*) the villagers of the same place were subjected to lathi charge and that three of them are lying in the Local Fund Hospital, Gudivada?

A.—(*a*) On two or three occasions unlawful assemblies had to be forcibly dispersed at the sibiram. Some of the coolies referred to may possibly have been members of those assemblies, but there was no daily beating of any one.

(*b*) There were no lathi charges in the village itself which is a mile from the sibiram. Three persons were injured in lathi charges near the sibiram and admitted to hospital.

24th March 1932]

Alleged Police terrorism in Gudivada.

* 1241 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that every day the Deputy Magistrate of Gudivada accompanied by the Circle Inspector and Sub-Inspector of Police with two bus load of constables have been lathi-charging the villagers and terrorising them that they are afraid to move out of their houses for ordinary avocations?

A.—No.

Alleged assault of picketers at Nandivada.

* 1242 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on receiving a report that three volunteers were picketing a liquor shop at Nandivada recently the Subdivisional Magistrate with Police proceeded to the place and commenced a general lathi charge in the village, houses were broken into, doors smashed and the inmates beaten?

A.—Five volunteers who were found picketing the toddy shop at Nandivada were forcibly dispersed on 8th January 1932. There was no general lathi charge in the village, nor were houses broken into, doors smashed or the inmates beaten.

Alleged ill-treatment of Messrs. Peta Bapayya and C. Venkataramayya by the Police.

* 1243 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Peta Bapayya and Changalamudi Venkataramayya were severely beaten and searched while they were recently passing by the road near Andra Ratna Bhavan and were produced before the Collector the next day hand-cuffed?

A.—No.

Alleged beating of Mr. Kodi Gopalakrishnayya.

* 1244 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Mr. Kodi Gopalakrishnayya of Ellakurru was beaten by the Police on the 28th January 1932 for no offence whatever?

A.—The individual mentioned with others obstructed the Police in the execution of their duty on 28th January 1932 at Elakanur and were forcibly dispersed.

Alleged beating of Mr. Thota Narasayya.

* 1245 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Police party entered a coffee hotel at Pamarru on 28th January 1932 and dragged out one Mr. Thota Narasayya while he was taking his tiffin and beat him with lathis and fractured his arm?

A.—It is reported that the individual mentioned was not dragged out of any coffee hotel. He was involved in the dispersal of an unlawful assembly at Pamarru on 28th January 1932 and received a few slight injuries. His arm was not fractured.

Alleged looting of sweetmeat shops at Pamarra.

* 1246 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the 29th January 1932 the Police party led by Mr. Bangara, the Subdivisional Magistrate, looted the sweetmeat shops at Pamarra, while they were returning after a lathi charge from Bhatlaperumarru?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session. They have no reason to suppose that the Subdivisional Magistrate looted any shop or allowed any shop to be looted.

Alleged beating of ambulance workers at Tinnevelly.

* 1247 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that between the periods 8th and 23rd January 1932—

(*a*) fourteen Congress volunteers who were picketing foreign cloth shops and five ambulance workers wearing Red Cross badges have been taken to the Tinnevelly Town Police station with the assistance of Reserve Police and wantonly and mercilessly beaten by the police with lathis;

(*b*) the police also let loose on them a private dog in the police station to bite the volunteers; and

(*c*) the police also inserted a pin in the arm of a *non-picketer* to the depth of one inch, and thereby caused serious bodily injuries to both volunteers and others?

A.—(*a*) On the 8th and 9th January 1932 certain men wearing Red Cross badges who were known to be picketers and were misusing the Red Cross badge were dispersed in Tinnevelly along with other picketers. The Government have no further information and regret there is not sufficient time to obtain it.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain it.

Mr. Daniel Thomas:—" It is stated in the answer that ' certain men wearing Red Cross badges who were known to be picketers and were misusing the Red Cross badge were dispersed.' Were they wearing badges at the time? May I ask on what authority that statement is made? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" On the report of the District Magistrate."

24th March 1932]

Mr. DANIEL THOMAS:—" Will the hon. Member be pleased to state whether the Government made enquiries from other persons ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" I have said times without number on the floor of the House that it is not necessary to do so."

Alleged forcible entry of a police constable into the ladies' compartment.

* 1248 *Q.*—Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether the Government are aware that some time in the first week of February a constable by name Raju, entered the ladies' compartment from Rajahmundry and refused to go out when he was asked by the ladies in the compartment to do so?

A.—If the question refers to the allegation that appeared in the *Swarajya* of 29th January 1932 to the effect that a constable in plain clothes entered a ladies' compartment at the Godavari station and would not leave it even after the train had been signalled to start, the Government have inquired and find that the allegation is untrue.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" May I enquire whether Police constables without uniform are instructed to get into the ladies' compartment?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" No, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" How did it happen that a member of the C.I.D. entered the ladies' compartment?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" It is stated in the answer that the allegation is untrue."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—" Will the hon. Member please speak up?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—" The allegation is untrue."

Lathi charge at Coondapoor on 15th January 1932.

* 1249 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there was a very severe lathi charge on Congressmen and other wearers of Gandhi cap and khaddar in Coondapoor on the 15th instant; if so, what were the events that led up to the same;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that on the same day Mr. Tellicherry Ranga Rao, pleader, Mangalore, and one or two others who were in the Congress office in Coondapoor were called out by the Police and when they got down the road they were severely beaten by the Police with lathis;

(*c*) whether the Police surrounded them and beat them even after they fell down senseless; and

(*d*) what the injuries on the head and body of Mr. Ranga Rao are?

[24th March 1932

A.—(*a*) A Congress procession was taken by Mr. T. Ranga Rao and two other Congress volunteers on the 14th January 1932 in defiance of an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, and was dispersed by a lathi charge after due warning. The charge was not a specially severe one.

(*b*) No; Mr. Ranga Rao and two other volunteers received injuries during the dispersal of the unlawful assembly of which they remained members after having been warned to disperse.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) A slight swelling on the back of the head due to a fall on the ground when the unlawful assembly was being dispersed and another injury below the ear due to a blow. The injuries were slight and did not require hospital treatment. On the next day when he was convicted he was certified fit to travel by the Medical Officer.

Lathi charge on people wearing khaddar at Coondapoor.

* 1250 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that one Mr. Tellicherry Ranga Rao was arrested on the 15th instant in Coondapoor in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that after the arrest as he was about to enter the lock-up, he cried "Mahatma Gandhiki Jai" when the Sergeant or the police severely beat him with lathis on the head and body;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that on the 15th January, the Police went about the town of Coondapoor beating all persons wearing any khaddar;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Police beat a vaccinator who was in the Taluk office because he had a khaddar shawl on;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the police chased a Government clerk of the Registration office and beat him; and

(*f*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) He was arrested on the 14th in the circumstances stated in answer to clause (*a*) of Question No. 1249.

(*b*) The answer to both parts of the clause is in the negative.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) The vaccinator was among the crowd near the Taluk Board office. The crowd was repeatedly warned to disperse and not doing so it was dispersed by force. The vaccinator was one of those injured in the course of the dispersal. He was not singled out and beaten because he was wearing a khaddar shawl.

(*e*) There is no information that any Government clerk was beaten or received any injury.

(*f*) None.

24th March 1932]

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" May I enquire whether the vaccinator was beaten within the compound of the Taluk Board Office?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " The question is answered."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT :—" It is not stated where he was beaten?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " Near the Taluk Board Office."

Assault on persons wearing Gandhi caps at Coondapoor.

* 1251 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that after beating Mr. Tellicherry Ranga Rao and two others on the 15th, the police went round the town of Coondapoor severely beating with lathis all persons wearing Gandhi caps or khaddar;

(*b*) whether it is a fact they dragged out of shops shopkeepers wearing khaddar and beat them with lathis;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the proprietor of the Swadeshi Stores was dragged out of his shop and beaten with lathis; and

(*d*) what action the Government propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member apparently refers to the incident on the 14th January 1932. The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Does not arise.

Additional police expenditure in South Kanara on account of the Civil Disobedience Movement.

* 1252 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what additional expenses are incurred for feeding the police in the district of South Kanara on account of the civil disobedience movement;

(*b*) from what funds are the same met and what the different heads of expenditure are;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the police were supplied with liquor at Coondapoor on the 15th of January; and

(*d*) from what funds has the same been met?

A.—(*a*) Additional expenditure is incurred on the supply of meals. The total amount of additional expenditure has not yet been reported.

(*b*) The expenditure is debited to " 26. C. Police—District Executive Force—A. District Police—8. Other Supplies and Services—(Voted) Other Petty Supplies ".

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Does not arise.

[24th March 1932

Secret Service Fund.

* 1253 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the total amount set apart for secret service in this Presidency is in the current financial year and what the purposes are for which it is intended;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that Rs. 8,000 had been set apart for the current year as secret service fund for the District of South Kanara;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the said amount of Rs. 8,000 is being spent in feeding and feasting the Reserve Police in Mangalore, South Kanara; and

(*d*) what the total amount spent out of the said secret service fund is during the month of January 1932 in South Kanara and what the different heads are in which they were spent in connexion with the Civil Disobedience Movement and how much on each head?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) There is no "Secret Service Fund" head of account in the Police Department.

(*c*) The information required as to the expense incurred in feeding the Police is given in the answer to question No. 1252.

Date of the addendum to the extract from the Police Gazette *regarding the use of lathis.*

* 1254 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state on which date was the last part of the instructions of the *Police Gazette* extract of which was printed as appendix to answer to question No. 1049 answered on 18th March 1932 beginning with "Add the following at the end of the section, etc.", added to the main body of instructions?

A.—The Government have not the information and have called for it.

Alleged Police excess in Kurumaddali.

* 1255 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that at Kurumaddali, one Punnamanai Virayya and Gollapalle Sriramulu were lathi-charged recently for no offence whatever, but simply as they were ex satyagraha convicts?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1113.

Alleged beating by the Police of K. Anjenayulu and others at Gudivada.

* 1256 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that at Gudivada Sub-Inspector Durga Rao Nayudu forcibly entered the

house by breaking open the door of one G. Venkatasubrahmanyam Chetti at 9-30 p.m. one night recently during Mr. Subrahmanyam Chetti's absence in Madras, leaving a posse of constables outside the house, and assaulted one Kedate Anjenayulu, Vallabhamani Ramabrahman and his wife and another Congressman, while they were staying there as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Subrahmanyam Chetti and whether the said Sub-Inspector further kicked the said Anjenayulu with his boots and pulled him by the tuft of hair on his head out of the house?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to question No. 1073 on the 21st March 1932.

Alleged conviction of M. Ramakotayya for harbouring the ladies of Subrahmanyam's Ashramam.

* 1257 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that recently the ladies of Erneni Subrahmanyam's Ashramam were taken out in a bus and left on the road side at Pamarru far away from Gudivada, and that one Mr. Mikkilineni Ramakotayya who gave the ladies food and shelter for the night, was beaten and sentenced to imprisonment for harbouring the ladies?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answers to questions Nos. 1114 and 1074.

Alleged Police excess in Gudivada on 15th January 1932.

* 1258 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Subdivisional Magistrate, Gudivada, went to Pamarru on the 15th January 1932 with a posse of police and sent for one Tamala Nagireddi and Painamaneni Pattabhiramayya and assaulted them with sticks and canes?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Assault of Mikkilaneni Akkayya of Pedamaddali.

* 1259 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the 16th January 1932 the Subdivisional Magistrate, Gudivada, sent for one Mikkilaneni Akkayya of Pedamaddali and assaulted him with lathi for celebrating the flag day on the 14th January 1932?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged police excesses in Tinnevelly Town and Kallidaikurichi.

* 1260 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a letter was sent by about 25 gentlemen of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah, most of whom advocates and pleaders, on 28th January 1932, to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, and the Secretary, Public Department, complaining about certain excesses and illegalities committed by the Police in Tinnevelly Town and Kallidaikurichi;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a detailed memorandum containing full particulars of the complaint and the materials on which they were based, was presented to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, on 11th February 1932;

(*c*) whether according to the memorandum, 22 persons have received various injuries at the hands of the Tinnevelly Town Police from 8th January 1932 to 23rd January 1932 and 5 of them were persons wearing *Red Cross* badges and waiting to render *ambulance relie[f]* to wounded picketers, and 7 have received injuries solely as a resul[t] of beating by policemen within the premises of the Tinnevelly Town Police station; and 17 persons of Kallidaikurichi of whom 9 were sitting in private houses, 4 doing business in shops, 3 attending worshi[p] in a temple and 1 a temple servant rendering service in a temple hav[e] received various injuries at the hands of the Ambasamudram Polic[e] on 15th January 1932;

(*d*) whether any enquiry was made into the truth or otherwis[e] of these allegations, and if so by whom, and what the finding of th[e] enquiring officer is;

(*e*) whether any notice was given to the gentlemen who complaine[d] and the injured persons by the enquiring officer, before he made an[y] enquiry; and

(*f*) whether paragraph 24 of the memorandum mentions th[e] various materials on which the complaint was based, and whether i[t] is not a fact that no officer has till now either called for or looked int[o] the same?

A.—The Government received a petition, dated the 26th Januar[y] 1932, from certain persons in Tinnevelly alleging that th[e] Police assaulted picketers, non-Congressmen and person[s] engaged on ambulance duty. It was transferred to th[e] District Magistrate. The Government understand that tw[o] signatories of the petition interviewed the District Magistrat[e] and discussed the allegations with him. No further repre[-]sentation has reached the Government from the signatorie[s]. The Government have called for a report.

24th March 1932]

Memorial, dated the 11th February 1932, to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, regarding Police excesses.

* 1261 *Q*.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in paragraph 5 of a memorandum presented to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, on 11th February 1932 full particulars have been given of the cases of seven foreign cloth picketers who were arrested, taken to the Police station and beaten within the station premises;

(*b*) whether any enquiry has been made into the allegation and whether any notice of the same was given to the injured persons and the gentlemen who made the complaint; and

(*c*) whether the Government will order an enquiry to be made?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1260.

Action taken on the petition from the citizens of Tinnevelly, dated 26th January 1932.

* 1262 *Q*.—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what action has been taken on the petition of the citizens of Tinnevelly, dated 26th January 1932, and the detailed memorandum presented to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, on the 11th February 1932 as per his orders and whether any enquiry has been made; if so, with what result ?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1260.

Memorial regarding police excesses in Tinnevelly.

* 1263 *Q*.—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether a letter signed by 28 leading citizens of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah has been sent to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, on 13th March 1932 mentioning full particulars of illegal beating and other injuries inflicted on 43 persons from 26th January 1932 to 9th March 1932 by certain members of the Tinnevelly police force; and

(*b*) whether in view of the serious nature of the allegations, the Government will be pleased to direct an enquiry preferably by a judicial officer or a first-class magistrate into the truth of the complaint, and place the result of such enquiry on the table of the House ?

A.—(*a*) The Government understand that a petition, dated the 12th March 1932, signed by 28 persons has been sent to the District Magistrate of Tinnevelly. A copy of the petition has just been received by the Government.

(*b*) The Government do not consider such an enquiry necessary. They have called for a detailed report from the District Magistrate on the allegations made.

Alleged beating of ambulance workers at Tinnevelly.

* 1264 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on 8th January 1932 in Tinnevelly, one Arunachalam Pillai, Krishnamurti and Subrahmanya Mudaliyar, all ambulance workers with Red Cross badges on, carrying ambulance stretchers were taken to the police station and severely beaten with lathis on the head, arms and shoulders and causing severe wounds all over their bodies, as testified to by a medical officer who treated them immediately after the occurrence and whether the stretcher also was forcibly taken away from them and not yet returned ?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of picketers at Tinnevelly.

* 1265 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly town, 7 picketers who were picketing foreign cloth shops from 17th to 23rd January 1932, surrendered to the police for arrest and that they were taken to the police station and beaten ?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of Karmegham Pillai and Ramanathan at Tinnevelly.

* 1266 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Karmegham Pillai and Ramanathan, picketers, were beaten with lathis by the Tinnevelly Town police on 9th January 1932 and that the former was beaten till he fell unconscious and the latter received contused wounds on the chest and abdomen and over the region of the heart ?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of Dhanabagyam and Venkataramayya.

* 1267 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly, one Dhanabagyam and Venkataramayya picketers, were beaten with lathis on 10th January 1932 and received contused wounds on their shoulders and back ?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of Mr. Krishna Ayyar at Tinnevelly.

* 1268 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one S. R. Krishna Ayyar, a picketer, was severely beaten with lathis by the Tinnevelly Town police and taken to the police station on 13th January 1932 and while he was lying down exhausted there, he was again beaten with lathis and canes by ten constables and was stripped of his clothing before being beaten and that he received fourteen injuries, one being on the face?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of a picketer named Chandran.

* 1269 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one Chandran, a picketer, was beaten with lathis on 14th January 1932 by the Tinnevelly Town police and received contused wounds?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged assault on picketers in Tinnevelly Town.

* 1270 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Tinnevelly Town, although the number of picketers never exceeded two on a single day and accordingly there being no question of unlawful assembly or its dispersal, the Police, instead of calmly arresting the individual picketers, had adopted violent methods, causing injury?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged Police excess in Tinnevelly Town on 9th January 1932.

* 1271 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Tinnevelly Town Police seized a stretcher on 9th January 1932 from the possession of three persons wearing Red Cross badges and the same was restored only on 4th February 1932;

(*b*) under what provision of law the forcible seizure of an apparatus for humanitarian relief was made; and

(*c*) if the seizure is illegal, what steps the Government propose to take, to punish the offender and to prevent the recurrence of such an incident?

[24th March 1932

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of one Palayya Pillai by the Police.

* 1272 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether one Palayya Pillai, son of Eswaramoorthia Pillai, Tinnevelly, has sent a notice of suit under section 80, Criminal Procedure Code, on 7th March 1932 to the Sub-Inspector of Police, Tinnevelly Town, complaining that on 6th March 1932 he was arrested for having picketed a foreign cloth shop in the West Car street, Tinnevelly Town, and taken to the Police station and from there to an adjoining lane, viz., Kanakarayamudukku theru, more than 100 yards from the picketing scene and was beaten there by the Tinnevelly Town Police under his orders and that he has received seventy-five injuries on his body;

(*b*) whether any enquiry has been made into this complaint and if so, by whom and what the explanation of the Sub-Inspector and his staff is;

(*c*) what the finding of the enquiring officer is; and

(*d*) whether the Government will be pleased to call for and place on the table copies of all orders issued by (1) Inspector-General of Police, (2) the District Magistrate of Tinnevelly, (3) the District Superintendent of Police, Tinnevelly, for the guidance of the subordinate Police in dealing with picketers and civil resisters during the year 1932?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

(*d*) The Government will call for the information, but are not prepared to place on the table copies of confidential orders.

Alleged beating of Mr. K. Narayana Ayyar at Kallidaikurichi.

* 1273 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Mr. K. Narayana Ayyar, village munsif of Malayamkulam, has brought to the notice of the Sub-Collector, Sermadevi, on 16th January 1932 that he was sitting in the outer veranda of his house in Vythiappapuram street, Kallidaikurichi on 15th January 1932 at about 5-30 p.m. that he got a number of lathi blows at the hands of the Police of Ambasamudram and that he got a number of linear contused wounds on both the arms and the back and an abrasion, and that he has sent a medical certificate along with his complaint;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that only a few days before the incident Mr. K. Narayana Ayyar was granted medical leave for one year on account of chronic bronchial trouble;

24th March 1932]

(c) whether Mr. K. Narayana Ayyar's house is about 300 yards from the bazaar where picketing is said to have taken place on that day;

(d) whether these facts were also mentioned in paragraph 13 of the memorandum presented to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, on 11th February 1932;

(e) whether any enquiry has been made into the truth of these allegations and if so what the finding of the enquiry officer is; and

(f) whether any and if so, what action has been taken?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of Mr. T. C. Narayana Ayyar at Tinnevelly.

* 1274 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. T. C. Narayana Ayyar, a non-Congressman has received a gaping wound 2½ inches long in the right leg as a result of a lathi charge by a constable on 15th January 1932 at about 5-30 p.m. at Melamada street, Kallidaikurichi, Tinnevelly district, and that the wound was stitched and has left a permanent mark 1½ inches long; and

(b) whether any, and if so, what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken on this matter?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged beating of Ayyakannu Thevar at Tinnevelly.

* 1275 Q.—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether Ayyakannu Thevar, son of Andi Thevan, Senthamangalam, Tinnevelly district, was arrested by the Tinnevelly Town Police on 15th February 1932 and taken to the Town Police lines;

(b) whether there is a complaint in paragraph 17 of a letter sent by 28 leading citizens of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah to the District Magistrate on 13th March 1932 that he was completely stripped and beaten severely with canes by the Police in the Police lines and that one blow was given on the mouth with an admonition not to sing national songs and that as a result of the same two of the incisor teeth have been broken in half and that he has received 40 injuries;

(c) whether it is a fact that two of the incisor teeth of Ayyakannu have been broken in half as alleged; and

(d) whether the Government propose to make an enquiry into the complaint and take necessary action, and place it before the House?

A.—The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

Alleged arrest and beating of Madaswami Asari by the Tinnevelly Police.

* 1276 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Madaswami Asari, son of Sudalamuthu Asari, Nagercoil, was arrested by the Tinnevelly Town Police for picketing a foreign cloth shop and taken to the adjoining Kanakarayamudukku lane;

(*b*) whether there is a complaint in paragraph 28 of the letter sent by 28 leading citizens of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah to the District Magistrate, Tinnevelly, on 13th March 1932 that Madaswami got 38 cane stripe injuries including one on the lower lip as a result of which the central incisor of the lower jaw was broken in the middle half;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that Madaswami's tooth has broken in half as alleged; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to make an enquiry into the complaint and place the result of such enquiry before the House?

A.—(*a*), (*c*) & (*d*) The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

(*b*) Yes.

Alleged arrest and beating of Mr. Chinnappa Kaimal by the Tinnevelly Police.

* 1277 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Mr. P. Chinnappa Kaimal, son of Narayanan Nambudri, Vadarapalli, Malabar, who has passed the Intermediate Examination of the Madras University, was arrested for picketing a foreign cloth shop by the Tinnevelly Town Police and taken to the Town Police station on 1st February 1932;

(*b*) whether there is a complaint in paragraph 8 of a letter sent by 28 leading citizens of Tinnevelly and Palamcottah that he was beaten in the Police station with canes and that he was compelled to do hundred *Thoppikkarnams* by constable No. 211 and that all his dress was torn away; and

(*c*) whether the Government propose to make an enquiry into the complaint and place the result of the enquiry on the floor of the House?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session.

24th March 1932]

Alleged arrest and beating of Ramasamiah Pillai by the Tinnevelly Police.

* 1278 *Q.*—Mr. M. D. T. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a notice of suit under section 80, Criminal Procedure Code, has been sent to head constable Subrahmanya Ayyar, Tinnevelly Town Police station, on behalf of Ramasamiah Pillai, son of Subrahmanya Pillai, Nagercoil, on 13th March 1932 claiming damages from him on the ground that he was arrested on 9th March 1932 for attempting to do foreign cloth shop picketing and taken to the Tinnevelly Town Police station and from there to the adjoining Kanakaraya-Mudukku lane and that he was pushed down and beaten there very severely by the head constable and six other constables; and

(*b*) whether the Government propose to make an enquiry into the truth or otherwise of the allegations in the notice and place the same before the House?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The Government have no information and regret that there is not sufficient time to obtain and supply it before the end of this Session; but they will inquire.

Land Revenue Administration

Memorial from the ryots of Udayarpalayam.

* 1279 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have received memorials from the ryots of Udayarpalayam in or about March 1931, requesting the Government to direct a survey and settlement and record of rigbts of the zamindari of Udayarpalayam and for redress from excessive taxation by the Zamindar;

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take on the said memorials and whether a copy of the memorials and orders therein will be placed on the table of the House;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Revenue Inspectors in the said taluk were ordered by the Collector to investigate and report to him on the grievances of the ryots in the said taluk;

(*d*) if so, to what effect is the Revenue Inspector's report and whether the same has been forwarded to the Government and whether a copy will be placed on the table of the House;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that on 8th April 1931 and 12th April 1931 a conference of the ryots of Udayarpalayam was called by the Revenue Divisional Officer at Jayankondan; and

(*f*) whether it is a fact that at the said conference the Revenue Divisional Officer advised the ryots to organize themselves into an association, elect representatives from each village and send deputations to the Government for redress of their grievances?

A.—(*a*) Yes, in May 1931.

(*b*) Orders were passed on the memorial in G.O. No. 4148, Law (General), dated the 11th November 1931; a copy [a] of both the memorial and the Government Order is laid on the table.

(*c*) *to* (*f*) The Government have no information.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Will the hon. the Revenue Member be pleased to call for the information required in clauses (*c*) to (*f*)?"

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL:—"I will call the attention of the Board of Revenue to the question put by the hon. Member."

Levy of water charge for water pumped from private wells.

* 1280 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any water charge is levied by the Government for even water pumped from private wells which are in the vicinity of a Government tank or source;

(*b*) if so, under what provision of law are the Government entitled to levy the same;

(*c*) what the rate is at which such charge is levied and what the basis is for calculation;

(*d*) whether the Government have consulted the opinion of the Advocate-General regarding the right and legality to levy water charges for the water used for industrial purposes in the rural areas;

(*e*) if so, whether the Government will place a copy of the opinion of the Advocate-General on the table of the House;

(*f*) if not, whether the Government propose to consult the Advocate-General on this point; and

(*g*) what action they propose to take to remove this disability?

A.—(*a*) Yes, if the water is taken for industrial purposes and if the private wells are fed by percolation from Government sources. If the water is taken for irrigation, no charge is ordinarily levied.

(*b*) Common law applicable to ownership of property.

(*c*) Rs. 3 per 1,000 cubic yards subject to a minimum of Rs. 50 if the water is taken for industrial purposes.

(*d*) The Government have considered an opinion of the Advocate-General which relates to the Government's powers to prevent water being taken for industrial purposes from a well adjoining an irrigation channel.

(*e*) The Government are not prepared to do so.

(*g*) The Government do not understand the question.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XV on pages 1017–1018 infra.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I know whether the opinion of the Advocate-General is favourable or adverse to the Government ? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell :—" I am not prepared to place the Advocate-General's opinion on the table of the House."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I enquire whether the Government realize that the levy of charges for percolating water would be a serious obstacle to the development of cottage industries and other rural industries ? "

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell :—" I do not think that it will have that effect, as the hon. Member fears."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I ask, Sir, how they determine the quantity of water that is consumed by the industrial concerns, what are the appliances and what is the method by which they ascertain the quantity of water ? " 12 p.m.

The hon. Sir Archibald Campbell :—" I must ask for notice of the question."

Secretariat

Filling up vacancies on the establishment of the Secretariat.

* 1281 *Q.*—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many vacancies, permanent and temporary (including leave vacancies), arose in each of the cadres of Superintendents and upper division clerks in each department of the Secretariat during the six months ending with the 20th February 1932;

(*b*) how many of them were filled up by Muhammadans by appointing Muhammadan upper division clerks to act as Superintendents and Muhammadan lower division clerks to act as upper division clerks;

(*c*) whether the principle of communal representation was taken into consideration in filling up these vacancies;

(*d*) what the percentage of Muhammadan representation is in each of these cadres in each department of the Secretariat as corrected up to 20th February 1932; and

(*e*) whether the position has improved since the answering on 6th September 1928 of Question No. 215?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*) A statement[a] is laid on the table.

(*c*) Generally promotion to the Superintendent's grade and the upper division clerical grade is made from upper and lower division clerical grades respectively. The communal principle is not observed in the case of such promotions.

(*e*) There has been no appreciable improvement.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XVI on page 1019 infra.

[24th March 1932

Local Boards

Alleged irregularities in the Bezwada Municipality.

* 1282 *Q.*—Mr. Mahboob Ali Baig: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government recently received a petition from the Adi-Andhra coolies (20 males and 40 females) to the effect that they were the coolies of Bezwada Municipality having been in the service of the Municipality for over 15 years on a fixed salary of Rs. 12 and Rs. 8-8-0 per month per male and female coolie respectively and that they were dismissed by the present Chairman as they did not vote for the candidate of the Chairman and that in their place coolies of Fazonipet who voted for his candidate were appointed;

(*b*) whether the Government recently received a petition from the mutton sellers and fish sellers of Bezwada stating that the Municipal Council, Bezwada, passed a resolution, dated 29th January 1932, raising the licence fee for selling mutton and fish from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8-0 and from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 respectively with a view to discourage the consumption of mutton and fish;

(*c*) whether Muslim and Non-Brahman councillors complained that the resolution referred to in clause (*b*) was passed surreptitiously without their knowledge and that it was not actually moved in the Council;

(*d*) whether the Government received any petition from some of the councillors of the Bezwada Municipal Council to the effect that the Chairman, acting illegally and arbitrarily, refused to allow Rao Sahib C. K. Reddi, one of the councillors, to move in the Council, a resolution tabled for discussion in a special meeting of the Council, dated 11th February 1932, in respect of the irregularities committed and injustices done by the Chairman in the administration;

(*e*) whether it is true that the Chairman, Bezwada Municipality, requested the Police authorities to lend him the services of Police constables for collection of taxes;

(*f*) what action the Government have taken in the abovesaid matter referred to in clauses (*a*) to (*e*); and

(*g*) if no action has yet been taken what steps the Government propose to take?

A.—(*a*) A copy of a petition addressed to the Collector has been received.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) No.

(*e*) Government understand that the Chairman, Municipal Council, Bezwada, applied for the help of the Police in connexion with the execution of certain warrants in Islampet on a report made by the warrant officer that the defaulters were molesting him in the discharge of his duties but that the officer in charge of the Town Police station, Bezwada, expressed his inability to comply with the request until 31st March 1932.

(*f*) & (*g*) A report has been called for from the Collector in regard to the matter referred to in clause (*a*). Government do not propose to take any action in respect of the matters referred to in clauses (*b*) to (*e*) at present.

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know from the hon. the Minister what exactly was the reason for raising the licence fee for selling mutton and fish from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-8-0 and from Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 respectively? I think there is some mistake here about the figures."

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I do not know what the reason was, Sir. I shall call for the remarks of the Chairman on the matter."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know if the hon. the Minister will go into the question carefully and see if it is the sentimental objection of the Chairman and some other members concerned, to the selling of mutton and fish, that is responsible for such a decision and issue also instructions to the effect that the power to impose the fee should not be abused for purposes of getting more revenue ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur B. MUNISWAMI NAYUDU :—" I shall bear in mind the remarks of the hon. Member and see what I can do in this matter."

Co-operation

Loans granted to Central Co-operative Banks.

* 1283 *Q.*—Capt. W. E. WINTER : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the total sum of loans granted by the Government to the Central Co-operative Banks together with the rate of interest and the period for repayment;

(*b*) whether the loans were granted direct to the Central Co-operative Banks or to the Provincial Bank;

(*c*) the various rates of interest charged to the Provincial Bank and the Central Co-operative Banks;

(*d*) the various rates of interest charged to the Co-operative Unions and Federations; and

(*e*) the various rates of interest charged to the Co-operative Societies and the individual members of the society?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The Government do not ordinarily lend to the Provincial Bank or the District Central Banks. In view of the specially difficult position which the Central Banks had to face early in 1931, the Government granted a loan of Rs. 10 lakhs to them at the rate of 7 *per cent* on condition that the loan was repaid in six months. The sum was placed at the disposal of the Registrar who disbursed the amount among selected Central Banks according to the requirements of each bank. This amount has since been repaid to Government in full.

(*d*) The Government have not lent money to Unions and Federations.

(*e*) As regards primary societies loans by Government are granted only to certain special types of societies. The rate of interest at which loans are granted by Government and the rates charged by societies to their members are given in the appended statement.[a] The general rate now charged by Government is 7½ per cent. The lower rates given in the appendix relate to past loans or loans granted under special circumstances as the cash credit granted to the Central Land Mortgage Bank.

Education

Admission of students into the Training College.

* 1284 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM: With reference to the answer to question No. 923 (*b*), dated 29th February 1932, will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many out of the 129 pupils belong to each of the following communities:—

(i) Brahmans,
(ii) Non-Brahman Hindus,
(iii) Christians,
(iv) Muhammadans; and

(*b*) with reference to clause (*d*) of the abovequoted question, how many of the unsuccessful applicants in each of the three years belonged to each of the above four communities?

A.—(*a*) The statement below gives the information :—

Brahmans	61
Non-Brahman Hindus	38
Christians (including one Anglo-Indian)	23
Muhammadans	7
Total ..	129

(*b*) The numbers are as follows :—

	1929–30.	1930–31.	1931–32.
Brahmans	175	176	387
Non-Brahmans ..	34	34	71
Christians	10	24	55
Muhammadans ..	1	4	7
Total ..	220	238	520

[a] Printed as Appendix XVII on page 1020 infra.

24th March 1932]

Government Secondary Girls' School, Salem.

* 1285 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that the Government Secondary Girls' School in Salem is badly in need of good accommodation;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that an influentially signed mahazar from the people of Salem has been forwarded to Government urging for better accommodation for that school; and

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) be in affirmative, what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Owing to the financial stringency, the Government are unable to consider the question of acquiring a site and constructing a building for the school.

Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder:—" I think it is the policy of the Government that recognition should be withdrawn in the case of private institutions if the accommodation is unsatisfactory? If it is so, Sir, may I know how the Government are justified in keeping the accommodation of their own school in such an unsatisfactory manner ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I am afraid, Sir, economy has to be strictly observed, and we are unable to do anything in the matter."

Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti:—" Is the hon. Minister aware that District Educational Officers always take pleasure in threatening correspondents of various schools that if accommodation is not satisfactory, the Government will not be prepared to give grants ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I am not aware, Sir, that they take any delight in threatening people."

Reduction of education grants to local bodies.

* 1286 *Q.*—Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal for cutting short the grants payable to local bodies towards the maintenance of provincial susbsidized elementary schools during the year 1932–33; and

(*b*) if so, what instructions will be issued to make amends for the loss?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The reduction in subsidies to local bodies for elementary education, which has been made in the current year and which may be made in the next year has been necessitated by the financial stringency. No question of compensation for loss arises.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know what the local bodies are to do if the Government cut short the grant now ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" It is not for me, Sir, to advise the local bodies what they should do."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" What instruction the Government propose to give to the local bodies for the running of these schools during this period of shortage of finance ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" They must retrench as the Government are doing."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Are they to retrench, Sir, even the very low salary they are paying to their teachers nowadays? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" If the local bodies are not prepared to do that, they must find out other methods of getting money."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I know what the ' other methods ' are ? "

(No reply.)

Work done by Principals of Government Colleges.

* 1287 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state how many hours of teaching or lecturing work does each Principal of the Government Colleges in the Presidency have in the week and whether the Government will be pleased to cause the information regarding time-tables of each of these colleges and the number of hours taken by each Principal placed on the table?

A.—In regard to the time-table, the hon. Member is referred to the college calendars. The lecturing work done by the Principal varies from college to college. So far as information is available with the Government, the Principals do from five to ten hours of lecturing or teaching work a week.

Government commercial institutions in the Presidency.

* 1288 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the number is of commercial institutions maintained by Government in the Presidency for coaching up students for the G.D.A. Examination and Government Technical Examinations in the commercial subjects;

(*b*) what the number is of *aided* commercial institutions in the Presidency coaching up for the G.D.A. Examination and Government Technical Examinations in commercial subjects;

(*c*) what the net cost to Government is in respect of the Government institutions and in respect of the aided institutions;

(*d*) at what proportion does this amount work to the total amount spent on education other than *commercial*;

24th March 1932]

(e) whether the Retrenchment Committee has recommended the abolition of all the commercial institutions maintained by the Government; and

(f) whether there are any other institutions available which coach for the G.D.A. course and the Government Technical Examinations in Commerce?

A.—(a) to (d) The hon. Member is referred to the subsidiary tables appended to the annual report on Public Instruction.

(e) Yes.

(f) There is an institution under private management in Madras which trains students for the G.D.A. course. There are 38 institutions which train students for the Government Technical Examinations.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask at what stage the question of the retention of the Government Institute of Commerce is and when the consideration of that question will be over?"

The hon Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"It is still under examination by the department concerned. It has not yet reached me."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Is the Government aware that there are not enough institutions under private management to cater to the demand for instruction in commercial subjects?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I have not yet considered the question, Sir; I have no information on the point yet."

Agency Tracts

Oriya as Court language in the Vizagapatam Agency.

* 1289 Q.—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the taluks or subdivisions of the Ganjam district and the Vizagapatam Agency in which Oriya is recognized as the sole court language;

(b) whether there are Government Orders recognizing Oriya as court language solely or conjointly with Telugu and directing the employment of Oriyas or Oriya-speaking men;

(c) whether the Government will be pleased to lay all such Government Orders on the table;

(d) whether it is a fact that Oriyas waited on deputation upon a Member of the Board of Revenue at Parlakimedi and represented to him the grievances of Oriyas in regard to employment in the Public Services;

(*e*) whether it is a fact that since the constitution of the Madras Public Services Commission the Government Orders as to the employment of Oriyas or Oriya-knowing men in the public services are violated and that persons with no knowledge of Oriya are appointed as clerks in the Ganjam district; and

(*f*) whether any instructions are issued to the Public Services Commission for selection of Oriyas or Oriya-knowing men in accordance with the Government Orders now in force?

A.—(*a*) Oriya is recognized as the sole court language in

(i) the District Munsif's Court of Aska which exercises local jurisdiction over the following areas:—

(1) the revenue taluk of Ghumsur,

(2) the revenue taluk of Aska, including the zamindari estates, Dharakota, Serugada, Samokhinidi alias Pratapagiri and the proprietary estates of Aska and Kurla first and second portions and Devabhumi which is divided into Devabhumi, Nuvagada, Gottogam and Singhipur,

(3) the Bodagoda zamindari in Surada revenue taluk, and

(4) the portion of the revenue taluk of Chatrapur consisting of two firkas, Hinjili and Purushottampur containing thirteen villages and including the zamindari estates of Atagada;

(ii) the Revenue and Magisterial courts in the Ghumsur division of the Ganjam district;

(iii) the court of the Assistant Agent, Khond Agency, and the civil and criminal courts in the taluks of Balliguda, G. Udayagiri and R. Udayagiri; and

(iv) the civil and criminal courts in the Jeypore, Koraput and Nowrangpur taluks of the Vizagapatam Agency.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Copies* of the following Government Orders are placed on the table:—

(1) G.O. 2024, Judicial, dated 15th December 1890.
(2) G.O. 1161, Judicial, dated 27th June 1907.
(3) G.O. 456, Judicial, dated 5th March 1913.
(4) G.O. 407, Revenue, dated 3rd March 1922.
(5) G.O. 658, Public, dated 15th August 1922 (paragraph 5 and Appendix II).

(*d*) Government have no information in the matter.

(*e*) Reports have been called for.

(*f*) No, as no special instructions are necessary; it is for Oriyas to apply to the Madras Services Commission.

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* Printed as Appendix XVIII on pages 1021–1024 infra.

24th March 1932]

Oriya as Court language in the Vizagapatam Agency.

* 1290 *Q.*—Sriman M. G. PATNAIK Mahasayo: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any Government Order recognizing Oriya as court language in the Vizagapatam Agency;

(*b*) if so, whether in appointing officers, superior or subordinate, care is taken to select Oriyas or Oriya-knowing men;

(*c*) whether non-Oriya officers serving in various departments in the Vizagapatam Agency are required to pass any Oriya test;

(*d*) the number of taluk officers in the Vizagapatam Agency;

(*e*) the number of taluk officers who are Oriyas;

(*f*) the nnmber of non-Oriya taluk officers who have passed the Oriya test;

(*g*) the strength of the clerical staff in each of the taluk offices and the number of Oriya clerks in each office;

(*h*) the strength of the clerical staff—

(i) in the office of the Agent to the Governor, Vizagaptam;

(ii) in the Special Assistant Agent's office, Koraput;

(iii) in the Special Assistant Agent's office, Parvatipur;

(*i*) the number of Oriyas on the staff of each of the said office;

(*j*) the taluk officers, if any, who are authorized to record depositions in English in civil and criminal cases; and

(*k*) whether Government intend to direct recruitment of the staff of the offices in the Agency tracts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam by the Madras Public Services Commission?

A.—(*a*) There is an order recognizing Oriya as the court language in some courts in the Vizagapatam Agency and as one of the court languages in the others.

(*b*) Reports have been called for.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Eleven including Deputy Tahsildars.

(*e*) & (*f*) The Government have not the information.

(*g*) The strength of the clerical staff in each of the taluk offices is shown below:—

Name of Taluk office.	Number of clerks.
Jeypore	4
Viravalli	3
Gunupur	3
Rayagada	2
Malkanagiri	2
Koraput	3
Nowrangpur	2
Bissemkatak	2
Pottanghi	3
Padwa	2
Gudem	3

The Government have no information about the number of Oriya clerks in each office.

(*h*) (i) 6.

(ii) 5.

(iii) 2.

(*i*) The Government have not the information.

(*j*) No taluk officers have been authorized to record depositions in English in civil cases. In respect of criminal cases two second-class magistrates were invested with evidence powers during the last three years so far as information is available with Government now.

(*k*) Since the issue of the Statutory Rules recruitment to the Ministerial service in the Agencies is made from lists drawn up by the Madras Services Commission. The present rules provide that the minimum educational qualification required of candidates elsewhere in the Presidency shall not be necessary in the case of candidates for employment in the Agency tracts of Ganjam and Vizagapatam.

Land Revenue Administration

Arrest of Saravana Pillai and Pichai Pillai of Udaiyarpalaiyam.

* 1291 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in the month of August 1931 Messrs. Saravana Pillai and Pichai Pillai of Angarayanallore, Udaiyarpalaiyam taluk, were arrested and kept in remand;

(*b*) if so, under what section and for what offence were they arrested and under whose orders;

(*c*) what the status and position of the arrested persons is and what the kist is they pay to the Government and Zamindar;

(*d*) whether any warrant was obtained by the police before the arrest was effected;

(*e*) if not, what the reasons were that prevented the Police officers from obtaining a warrant of arrest;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that they were arrested and kept in remand on the 14th of August 1931 whereas the first information report against them was recorded and forwarded only on the 16th instant;

(*g*) if so, what were the reasons for this irregularity in procedure and what action the Government propose to take against those responsible; and

(*h*) whether it is a fact that the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, which they were supposed to have disobeyed was served on them only when they were in the lock-up?

A.—The Government have no information.

Arrest of certain persons in Udaiyarpalaiyam.

* 1292 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Pennadam Somasundaram Pillai and seven other respectable and peaceful ryots of Udaiyarpalaiyam taluk were ordered to be arrested, their properties attached and proclamation of sale issued on the 17th of August 1931;

(*b*) if so, whether any reasons were given by the officer who ordered these proceedings and if so, what they are;

(*c*) under what provision of law were the properties ordered to be attached;

(*d*) what the circumstances were that led to this series of proceedings all on one and the same day; and

(*e*) whether any opportunity was given to the said accused to explain their conduct before orders were passed. If not, why not?

A.—The Government have no information.

Public Service

Official recognition to the Government Press Labour Union.

* 1293 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government are prepared to accord official recognition to the Government Press Labour Union only if the present Secretary Mr. S. Ayyaswami Ayyar, who is an ex-employee of the Government Press, is removed from membership and the number of office-bearers who are not employees of the Government Press is reduced to a maximum of two; and

(*b*) if the answer to clause (*a*) be in the affirmative, why the Government impose such conditions?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Secretary is a dismissed Government servant. The Government are not prepared to recognize a Service Association with office-bearers most of whom are not connected with the Service.

Medical Administration

Selection Examination in Lady Willingdon Medical School.

* 1294 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether students of professional colleges like Law and Engineering are subjected to a selection examination;

(*b*) whether the Superintendent of the Lady Willingdon Medical School has any power to stop students from appearing for the Board Examination in the face of rule 11 of the rules published at page 339

[24th March 1932

of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, Part I-B, dated 5th May 1931, vesting the power of declaring passed or failed only in the Government Board of Examiners; and

(*c*) what the authority is, under which she acts in detaining students from appearing for the Board Examination?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) & (*c*) An extract[a] of rule 33 (*b*) of the rules governing L.M.P. Examination is given. Under that rule students who do not pass all the class examinations are not permitted to sit for the Board Examination except with the sanction of the President of the Board of Examiners.

Opening of the hostel attached to the Lady Willingdon Medical School.

* 1295 *Q.*—Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government are aware that hostels attached to Queen Mary's College, Medical College, etc., reopen a day prior to the reopening of the College and why a similar arrangement was not made in respect of the Lady Willingdon Medical School hostel in July 1931 ?

A.—Yes; the hostel attached to the Lady Willingdon Medical School, Madras, was opened a day prior to the reopening of the school in July 1931.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Buy Indian Leaguers in Arthamur.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Sir, may I ask my hon. Friend the Home Member whether he has received any reply to the short notice question I spoke about yesterday, about the alleged beating of Buy Indian Leaguers in Arthamur in Ramachandrapuram taluk of the East Godavari district? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I have sent a wire and have asked for a reply by wire. I have not yet received it. As soon as I receive the report, I shall consider what steps should be taken in the matter."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" In view of the fact that this is the second instance of beating of the Buy Indian Leaguers by the police, may I ask my friend to be good enough to issue suitable instructions to the police and the officers concerned, so that things of this sort may not recur in future? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—" I shall certainly consider the suggestion of my friend."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I ask whether he will not say anything more than 'I shall consider'? Will he not say that he will issue instructions so far as they are necessary and not merely say 'I will consider,' 'I will consider'? May I ask, Sir, whether he will never say anything more than that? "

[a] Printed as Appendix XIX on page 1024 infra.

24th March 1932]

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
"Do you think, Sir, I should reply to this?"

The hon. the President:—"If the hon. Member is in a position to say anything more, he can say it."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur:—
"I have already said, Sir, that I have asked the District Magistrate for a report and that after its receipt, I am prepared to consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend."

[*Note.*—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—THE VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1932-33.

DEMAND XXV—INDUSTRIES—TRANSFERRED.

* The hon. the President:—"The discussion on the cut motions under Demand XXV will continue."

* Mr. Yakub Hasan:—"Mr. President, Sir, I am glad that the report of the Madras Retrenchment Committee was circulated to us in time to be available to us at the time of discussing the cut motions under the Industries Demand. It has been the complaint all along that the Government have not formulated any policy for the department of Industries. In the pre-Reform days, Sir, when the Government was carried on by three Executive Councillors and the Governor, the Member in charge of Industries had an excuse to say that he had too many portfolios to attend to and he could only give very little attention to this department; but now, Sir, when Government has expanded and the Cabinet consists of seven Members instead of three and a Minister is put in charge, one would have expected that this department would receive special attention and that a well-thought out scheme and plan would have been by this time formulated for the Director of Industries to carry out. Sir, the Government not only have no policy of their own, but the policy that was laid down for them by the Industries Commission has not, at least in one instance, been carried out. On the other hand the suggestions of the Commission have been neglected. For example, the principle underlying the starting of any pioneer industry was stated thus: that possibilities should be explored of manufacturing a certain article in a way that it might become commercially a success. And as soon as sufficient demonstration has been made that the article can be produced and made commercially profitable, that industry should be handed over to private agency. Or, if the experiment has failed, that department should be closed. Sir, before the Industries department was inaugurated, Mr. Chatterton introduced the aluminium industry and the way in which he worked was such that the prejudice which people had towards the use of aluminium was taken away, and to-day if aluminium vessels are being used so largely throughout India, the credit goes to the Madras Presidency and to Mr. Chatterton for having introduced that industry here and made it a success; and as soon as that industry was made a success,

[Mr. Yakub Hasan] [24th March 1932

it was handed over to private agency. This was done before the Industries department was started. In this same Industries department, they started making soap as an experimental measure and it was demonstrated that soap could be made in this Presidency from indigenous materials and that commercially it was a success. Fifteen years ago I asked the Government to hand over the Kerala Institute to private agency. At that time, the Member in charge of the portfolio said: 'No, we have yet to train many people in the art of soap-making. It cannot be closed; it cannot be given over to private agency'. Sir, now after so many years, the Retrenchment Committee have come to the same conclusion, and they have also pointed out that the policy in regard to pioneer industries has not been strictly adhered to. I say it was altogether neglected and even acted against. The Retrenchment Committee says: 'The Kerala Soap Institute has now been in existence for nearly twenty years, although the possibility of manufacturing soap in a profitable commercial scale was demonstrated over nine years ago.' This remark of the Retrenchment Committee in their report is inconsistent with its own decision in another place. For, I find that instead of asking this soap factory to be closed—as one would be led to expect from this pertinent remark they have made—they have only allowed it to continue on the present lines for another year and say that then the question should be considered again. By that time the Committee is led to believe that 'sufficient progress should have been made with the experiments on oils and fats to determine whether they are likely to produce results of sufficient practical importance to warrant the retention of the whole concern'. Sir, in all departments, they have always been bringing forward some excuse or other for the retention of the department, and this story has been going on for ever and for ever, and there is no hope of this suggestion being acted upon even after the next year. I would like the Retrenchment Committee to have decided straightway to close the Institute. Even now, it is not too late, and the Minister would be well-advised to close this Institute at once. This Institute, Sir, had a loss of Rs. 5,451 last year; and yet the Director of Industries has the audacity to say that the net result of the year's working is that it was able to earn interest at the rate of 3·92 per cent on the capital invested on it ! Sir, is that the way that commercial undertakings are assessed? If the capital invested in a commercial undertaking gives you 3 per cent or 4 per cent return as interest, is that to be considered a commercial success, Sir? Such an excuse is now given for retaining this Institute. The Retrenchment Committee has understood this tendency very correctly, and it has rightly pointed out that whenever it is decided to close some experiment, the question always arises of the disposal of the staff that is employed thereon. "There is a natural reluctance to dispense with them, with the result
5 that the Retrenchment Committee say that there has been 'a regrettable tendency to prolong the work unnecessarily or to invent further allied enquiries for them to pursue without paying sufficient attention to their practical utility'. That is how these departments are kept up. The Leather Trades Institute is one glaring instance of this kind. It was

24th March 1932] [Mr. Yakub Hasan]

decided long ago that this institute should be closed as it was serving no useful purpose. But so long as it was in existence, people from far off places like the Punjab and Cawnpore were coming to Madras to learn tanning, but only very few of the Madrasis took advantage of that institute and even the very few who came out 'successful' and got a diploma were found unfit to do the work in the existing tanneries. If that department is to be closed, some work must be found for the man who was in charge of the institute. Simply to retain one European gentleman in service they have been trying to find some work for him with the result that he is asked to do some research work. The Retrenchment Committee say that the cost incurred on this research in connection with tanning industry should be recovered from tanners in this Presidency. The tanners are not prepared to pay for this. The other day a lecture was given by this 'expert' about the removal of stains from skins which showed that very little can be expected from this particular research in that direction. If at all any research is necessary, there is the Bangalore Institute where it can be done more advantageously. If you want that this research should be done, you should employ somebody who is fitted to carry out the research and pay him alone and not keep a whole department to assist him. I only mention this as one of the instances how things are being mismanaged.

"Last year, on this occasion I said, that fourteen years ago it was my suggestion that the Department of Industries should be placed under a Director who can devote his whole time, remain there and gain experience, so that in later years the department may get the benefit of his experience and that there may be a continuity of policy. Now, Sir, Director after Director is recruited either from the I.C.S. or P.C.S., he gains some experience in the department for two or three years and then he is shifted to another place. That kind of policy is wrong. I urged on the hon. Minister last year at the time the vacancy was impending that he might be pleased to appoint a person who would be able to manage this department properly and that at any rate he should not put a service man as the head of the department. He then replied that he would give consideration to those suggestions. Soon after, Sir, to our great surprise we found that an I.C.S. officer was appointed to that place. Sir, I had heard many a rumour about this appointment, but I do not want to go into those things. One thing is certain, viz., that some pressure was brought to bear and that the appointment was made under circumstances which were not satisfactory even to those who were responsible for making the appointment. I am glad that on account of retrenchment this question has again been reopened and I wish that the pruning knife will be so used that much of the money that is now being wasted on the Industries Department—at least the amount that is wasted on unnecessary staff—may be stopped for the present. If the department makes itself useful in the future, it is only for the future to disclose.

"Again, Sir, we do not want one I.C.S. officer as the Director and another Deputy Director to remain in charge of the reduced work that is now before them. One of these two officers should go. The question

[Mr. Yakub Hasan] [24th March 1932

will naturally arise, who is to go. Naturally, the person who has got 17 years' experience and one who had got the necessary knowledge of the department must be preferred to a person who has only been there for the last two or three months. In case it is decided that the Director should remain and the Deputy Director should go, the question will arise, there will be nobody to help the new Director, so that it becomes necessary that the man who has gained experience in the department as Deputy Director should be there and thus some members of the Committee make out a case for retaining both of them. It was only this morning I found from a paper that was addressed to me—I do not know whether it was addressed to me alone or to others also and I opened it only some time back—that a note was circulated to the Members of the Retrenchment Committee in which it was stated that the idea of abolishing the Deputy Director's post was with a view that the European Deputy Director himself might become the Director of the Industries department.

" Sir, I am for Indianization and I have worked for Indianization of the services and I always would prefer to have an Indian, but I have no prejudice against any Englishman if I find that an Englishman with experience can do certain work much better than an Indian without any experience. But the tendency nowadays is to work on our feelings and to so excite them as to come to injurious decisions simply for the sake of certain individuals. This is a thing, Sir, to be deprecated. In this connection, Sir, the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee is curious. They decided that the Deputy Director's post should be abolished and that decision was arrived at by the casting vote of the Chairman. Three of the Members have written a dissenting note in which they say that both the Director and the Deputy Director should be retained. The Report says: ' It was intended by those of us who voted in favour of the abolition that it should be the expert rather than the non-expert who should be retained.' If the expert is to be preferred to a non-expert, then the Deputy Director should be appointed as the Director of Industries, because according to their own recommendation, the Deputy Director's place must be abolished. So, if this principle is to be acted upon, the Deputy Director, whatever be is, should be appointed to the Director's place. On the other hand, if Government accept this decision ' literally,' then the Deputy Director goes away and the Director an I.C.S. officer ' who possesses no expert knowledge of the department ' remains. I wish the recommendation of the Committee had been more direct than merely conveying the decision in that indirect manner. No doubt this was because of the conflicting interests that were presented before the Retrenchment Committee on this question. If this is the sample of the policy of retrenchment followed in other departments also it is no wonder why we have little reason to thank the Committee for. In any case I was glad to read this section of the report of the Committee which contains only strictures on this department, though in a veiled language. I hope the hon. Minister will ponder over it and in coming to a final decision will not be carried away by any petty feelings but will only have an eye on the industrial good of the country, which can only

24th March 1932] [Mr. Yakub Hasan]

be promoted by having a Director who has got experience of the department and who is capable of carrying on the business. Till a definite policy is settled at some future date, for some two or three years at least this practical suggestion may be given effect to by abolishing the Deputy Director's post and making the present incumbent of that post the Director of Industries."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—" Mr. President, Sir, I am sorry that I have to say that the policy of the Government, ever since diarchy has been instituted, has been not to encourage the indigenous industries at all. What they have been doing is to carry on the administration of a department which has somehow or other come into existence without any policy. From the results of the various enterprises that they have undertaken we have seen that they have given a step-motherly attention to these industries, that they have failed to achieve the result they had in view and that they have not been able to develop the industries and have not helped the people of the Province to earn their livelihood by means of the industries which they have been able to develop. For instance, in the Kerala Soap Institute and in certain other enterprises that they took on hand they have failed. I wish to know what the Government is going to do in the Industries department, out of the paltry sum of Rs. 9,42,600, out of a total revenue or even an expenditure of 15 crores of rupees. This shows that they are not interested in the development of industries. It is only when industries are developed that they will be able to increase the riches of the Province and thus collect more taxes.

" They have been saying that they have no more sources of revenue 1 p.m. than Land Revenue and Excise Revenue. If they really have the policy of enriching the people of this Province by the development of industries, they will find additional sources of revenue. Instead of doing that, they have been keeping the Province as poor as ever. They have not taken into hand the only aspect of the Industries of this Province to which attention—more attention than they have been paying—could have been paid, that is the encouragement of cottage industry especially on the weaving and spinning side. That is a side to which they should have paid their best attention. They do not give the necessary amount of protection to the kind of yarn that is necessary for purposes of cottage industries. There is competition, and unequal competition also; so much so that a number of weavers have given up their work. The cottage industries have gone down owing to the competition that they have to face as against the mill industry.

" The Government have put into our hands the Administration Report of the Industries Department for the year 1930–31 very late and I do not know if it is deliberate or not. The result of such late distribution is that we have not been able to use the information that is given with regard to the working of the various departments. We have the report of the Industries Department in our hands and find that the information that is given there is certainly meagre. I think the Government ought to give more information in regard to the working of the Department than what is contained in the report.

"Sir, with regard to the Kerala Soap Institute the Retrenchment Committee has decided—not actually decided—that it ought to be closed down—this is what they say: 'After considerable discussion, the committee agreed that the Institute might continue on the present lines until 31st March 1933, when the position should be thoroughly reviewed.' I am afraid that the Retrenchment Committee, even in this single instance, has not acted with determination. They have been trying—this very note shows it—to please somebody, or at any rate to avoid displeasing somebody. They should have taken a decisive action with regard to this matter. It is time that the Institute is closed. I entirely agree with the note that is appended to the report by Mr. James that—

'As the Kerala Soap Institute has achieved what it set out to achieve, viz., the encouragement of private enterprise in the soap industry, it should be closed down. It is now incurring a loss on its commercial side of over Rs. 20,000 a year, and this loss is likely to grow owing to the increased competition of the very private enterprise which it has encouraged. I do not consider that the finances of the Presidency justify the continuance of this liability any longer.'

"I think, Sir, that it is high time that the Institute is closed. We have got the Government Soap Factory in Mysore and there are of course a large number of people who are preparing soap as a cottage industry and I consider that there is no need for the Government to keep on this Institute, and thus incur heavy loss.

"With regard to the Leather Trades Institute, to say the least, it is a scandal. I do not see what justification the Government can put forward for retaining a gentleman—a highly paid gentleman who is paid Rs. 1,500 or so—who is doing nothing. The pay he receives is more or less a pension. What service has that officer rendered and is rendering to justify his retention in Government service on such a high pay? Is it not a waste of public money to keep on a gentleman for nothing? Sir, reference has been made to the work expected from him. He is to detect stains on the leather some day in the course of a year, and that too he has not been able to find. The Government and the hon. Minister are responsible for seeing that this huge waste is prevented. Further, there is another officer. I do not know what exactly is the work that is expected of him and I hope the hon. Minister will kindly tell us in his reply what the nature of work is that the officer is expected to do—both the Research Leather Officer and the Officer in charge of the Institute. I want to know what they are doing and for whose benefit they are being paid. As a matter of fact the merchants who are interested in leather trade are not in any way benefited. If they are not for their (merchants') benefit, then for whose benefit are they kept on? For their own, probably.

"Let me now come to the question of the office of the Director of Industries and the Deputy Director of Industries. I have nothing to say against the gentleman who is now occupying the position of the Director of Industries. I know that he is a gentleman who is very much interested

24th March 1932] [Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan]

in the development of industries and has it nearest to his heart. Though he is a lay man, he will co-ordinate the activities of the various departments towards this end. I want to know, if he is able to do both the administrative work and the work of co-ordination, what need is there for the existence of the Deputy Director and if the Deputy Director is doing any special work; if not what necessity is there for retaining that officer? I find that the Retrenchment Committee have by a majority—of course there is no use questioning how the vote was obtained, the majority is there—decided that the post should be abolished. I find, Sir, that a note is appended by three hon. Members of the committee who seem to question the decision of the committee. When we remarked about the work done by the Retrenchment Committee, one of those hon. Members came forward boldly to defend the committee and entered a strong protest against how they were treated. I find that my hon. Friend from Trichinopoly Mr. Narayanaswami Pillai is one and the other is Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar who did not come forward but was acting behind the scenes. These two gentlemen have advocated the retention of both the Director and the Deputy Director of Industries. My idea is that whether he be a civilian or not, whether he is technically qualified or not, whoever he may be, the gentleman at the head of affairs should be an Indian. I consider also that there is no need for such a supernumerary post as the Deputy Director in the interests of economy and to facilitate the work of the Director of Industries himself.

"I find that the Retrenchment Committee has gone on merrily with cutting down the number of scholarships. This is not the direction in which the axe of retrenchment should have been used. They have proposed that the number of State Technical Scholarships should be reduced from 8 to 4, that the number of scholarships at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute should be reduced from 14 to 10, that the six scholarships for electrical engineering at Benares should be abolished—this may be understood as there are such courses at the Engineering College at Guindy—that the fourteen post-graduate scholarships at the Indian Institute of Science should be reduced to 10 and that the three scholarships at the Indian Schools of Mines, Dhanbad, should be held in abeyance. I can understand the reasons for the abolition of the scholarships granted for studies for electrical engineering at Benares and the Indian School of Mines; but I cannot understand why the scholarships should be reduced in the other cases. I do not think that it is a proper thing to prevent our young men receiving a training in these lines. When the future development of industries is possible, it is not right that we should cut at the very root of the very sources by which we can help the industrial development. I am afraid that the Government and the Retrenchment Committee have pursued a policy of destruction rather than construction, and I hope that the Government will not give effect to the retrograde recommendations of the committee. I think it quite inadvisable that we should stop sending our students to foreign countries and other institutions within India, when we have to take in hand the industrial development of this country under provincial autonomy.

[Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan] [24th March 1932

"The Government is also closing down certain workshops and Industrial schools in the Province. Instead, they ought to open more schools.

"With regard to the question of boring and pumping, I am not sure whether it is proper that this should be kept under this Department whereas it seems to me that this properly belongs to the Agricultural Department. I do not understand why this should form part of the Industries Department.

"I think, Sir, that there is no need for having a separate Fisheries Department under a Director. Here also the Retrenchment Committee could have economised. I do not agree with the Committee when they suggest that the Agricultural Department, the Industries Department and the Fisheries Department should be brought under one Director. Agriculture must be kept separate and it must be developed separately. I would much rather like the Industries and Fisheries Departments being combined and brought under one Director.

-15 "With regard to the manner in which the Textile section is managed, .m. Sir, in my opinion it ought to be the only department on which the attention of the Director should be concentrated. For it is on the development of this department the future industrial development of this Province depends. I hope the hon. Minister, when he replies, will tell us why they are continuing the Leather Expert, whoever he is, and why Government have not decided to close down the Kerala Institute and why they have not abolished the Deputy Director's post."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, Sir, my friend, Mr. Frank Birley in the course of his speech during the General Discussion on the Budget the other day emphatically protested against the manner in which the Industries department of Government is competing with private bodies. I am in entire agreement with the sentiments expressed by that hon. Member, the Leader of the European Group. The same hon. Member went on to say that the policy of the Government has been directed into wrong channels, and the Government are at present competing with private individuals in the matter of petty industries like soap-making, etc. This policy ought to change. Economists like Marshall and Gide, whose inclinations are well known to be socialistic, have declared that Governments should not undertake upon themselves the running of such industries. No doubt they contend that States should take upon themselves the duty of running what are known as public utility concerns, like the Railways and the Post office. These economists, whom I have mentioned, have emphatically stated that it is against the interest of all concerned that States should take upon themselves the manufactures of some of the necessities of its citizens, like those which the Madras Government have taken upon themselves.

"The two reasons on which they base their objection to State indulgence in such manufactures are these. Their first reason is that there is always a tendency on the part of officials employed by Government to

24th March 1932] [Mr. V. T. Arasu]

be very expensive in their estimates and to run their concerns most uneconomically. I believe that is but quite true. The second reason is that Government officers might fight shy of possible public criticism in case of failure, and therefore may not expand the industries, but may allow them to remain stationary or even to deteriorate. For these two reasons these economists object to Governments taking upon themselves the running of industries. They say that these industries are better managed by business leaders, who are found in all communities, than by public servants.

"Yet another reason that appeals to me most is that the Government by entering the field and competing with private individuals in these small industries would be stifling the rise of *entrepreneurs*. The presence of *entrepreneurs* are essential to any and every community. Without them no community can progress. For these reasons I urge upon the Government to give up their small industries like soap-making and ink-making, and hand them over to business men.

"The Government has been carrying on soap-making for the last so many years; and what is it that we find? Year after year they are losing thousands and thousands of rupees on it. And the most curious phenomenon about this soap factory is that though the output is increasing year by year, yet the loss has not proportionately decreased at all! This is a curious feature with the Kerala Soap Institute and I hope the hon. Minister will explain the same.

"The one bright side of the Industries Department which appeals to me most is the organization which goes by the name of the Industrial and Commercial Intelligence Bureau. But I am not at all satisfied with the way in which it is at present managed. This Bureau simply supplies to business men a list of business houses existing in this and other countries. It is supplying only this meagre information. That is not enough. What I want is that the scope and activities of this Intelligence Bureau should be expanded and it should be made to serve a wider purpose. It should serve the purpose served in the Colonies by what are called Trade Commissioners' Offices. In other countries a large establishment is attached to the Trade Commissioners' Office; and the main function of this office is to advertise the staple products of that country in foreign countries, and thus enable the producers to find good and profitable markets for their commodities. That I think ought to be the goal of the Intelligence Bureau attached to our Industries Department.

"In our province the two important commodities which are exported to other countries on a large scale are, hides and skins, and groundnuts. From the statistics supplied by the Director of Industries I find that in the year 1930–31 the export of hides and skins has considerably gone down by 13 per cent in volume and 19 per cent in value; and what steps has this Intelligence Bureau taken to see that the quantity of hides and skins exported is increased, at any rate not

[Mr. V. T. Arasu] [24th March 1932

"Secondly in the matter of groundnut also I find the Director admits that there has been a decline in the export. In the year 1930–31 the fall in export amounts to over 25 per cent as compared to the previous year's figures; and the fall in the value of the exports amounts to nearly 50 per cent. When that is so, I ask what steps the Director of Industries and his Intelligence Bureau took in that direction? I want to know how the Director and the Intelligence Bureau have advertised these commodities in other countries where there is a demand for them.

"I have but only one more observation to make, and that in connexion with the appointment of the Director of Industries. Several hon. Members who have preceded me have rightly entered their emphatic protest against the appointment of an I.C.S. officer as Director of Industries. Sir, I may at the outset say that I have personally nothing to say against the present incumbent. I know he is a very able man. But I am only following the lead given by one of my esteemed Leaders, Sir Patro, who in the course of his speech last year in the Industries Demand entered his emphatic protest against Government appointing what he calls a "mere revenue official" to be in charge of this department. On that occasion he put in his plea for the appointment of an officer with special technical and industrial qualifications to this post. I am in entire agreement with those sentiments. Another distinguished member of the Justice Party, I mean, Diwan Bahadur A. Ramaswami Mudaliyar, in the course of his speech on an identical motion—I believe in the year 1922 or 1923—protested against the appointment of a Revenue official, a Provincial Service man then, and characterized him as one who did not know to 'distinguish between a soap and an '*Iddle*' (இட்லி). (Laughter.) That is the humorous remark of one of the prominent pillars of the Justice Party in protesting against the appointment made by one of the Ministers belonging to his own party. When two such distinguished leaders have said that Revenue officials should not be appointed to this post, I ask the hon. Minister, who happens to be a member of the Justice Party, the special reasons which impelled him to act in this present case against the opinions of two distinguished ornaments of the Justice Party. Surely there must be some very valid reasons. But only let us know what it is.

"Having said that, I should like to throw out one more suggestion. The present Ministry having appointed Mr. Ramakrishna as Direcor of Industries, I wish he is not removed from this post for some time at least. For, who does not know that the post of the Director of Industries is usually considered by Government to be a mere stop-gap appointment? Whenever there is no place for a civilian officer in any other branch of service, he is appointed to this office, and in the course of that year itself or a year hence he is transferred back to the Revenue Department. I submit that ought not to be the policy of the Government hereafter. For once we have secured a really efficient Director in Mr. Ramakrishna. I would therefore appeal to the Government to see that he is made the permanent Director of Industries and not disturbed under any circumstances."

24th March 1932]

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" Mr. President, Sir, about this department, there has been a lot of misunderstanding with regard to the scope of its work. No doubt it is true that we in India have not become an industrial nation, and so an attempt ought to be made to improve our industries. In regard to this the aim of Government should be as far as large scale industries are concerned not to start each and every industry, but that they should only show the way in which an industry can be set up. The success of every industry depends on the initiative and expert knowledge of its organizers, and Government should leave these to private individuals; they should only carry on the research side and leave the rest to private concerns to be done. So much with regard to large scale industries. Then there are what are called intermediate industries like the aluminium industry which was undertaken by the Local Government and was later on handed over to private individuals to be run."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The House will now adjourn and re-assemble at 2-30 p.m."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR :—" I was first saying that the Government should undertake the work of research. I know, Sir, in other countries, especially in America a lot of research work is being done by the trade itself. But here we have no organization to undertake that sort of research with the result that the Government has to come to the rescue and undertake it. Otherwise we will lag far behind. The Government ought to be prepared to gather information here and in other countries and offer advice to the people and make all statistics and information available for the people who want it. Then coming to the second-class of industries the Government has to undertake a sort of pioneer work and by so doing they must prove that the industry is really paying. It is stated that in other countries that sort of work is undertaken by the trade. But here we have not so far advanced with the industrial movement and it is necessary that Government should do that sort of experiment to induce the people to take it up. The ordinary trader cannot afford to possess the initiative nor risk in undertaking any new industry. The department had undertaken some industries to see whether they could be worked here with profit and the results have not always been successful. Then, Sir, it seems to me that Government ought not to work in this direction alone but should make efforts for getting work to the largest population in the country. I have said the other day that about 80 per cent of our population are employed in the agricultural work. Of these about 65 to 70 are employed in agriculture and the rest 10 to 15 per cent are their dependents. Now what happens to these people when they are not fully employed in agricultural operations? The actual waste involved in such a large population being without work to do for a considerable portion of the year is very stupendous. For instance if every man employed in the agricultural work works for three or four months only

the rest of the period he is idle. Taking into consideration that a very large portion of the population is employed in this sort of work my point will at once be seen. The chief work of the Industries Department in the province ought to be to find work for the spare time of those who are employed in agriculture. I believe recently a survey was made of some of the districts in regard to the possible development of the cottage industries available. I do not know what exactly has occurred after the receipt of these reports and whether the Government have taken any action on those reports. I would ask the hon. Minister to devote attention to that report and not remain content with having got it. He will have to see that whatever is possible to supply by way of employment for the agricultural population everywhere is done. There is the question of climate, there is the question of the agricultural produce grown at the present moment in different localities, there is the aptitude of the people and there are many other things to be taken into consideration. It is with reference to all these that the cottage industries have to be developed to occupy the spare time of the agriculturists. There cannot be anything like stereotyped work to be done in each village. In some villages it may be that spinning will have to be fostered. In some villages weaving may be helpful. In every place these may not do. There is a sort of technical aptitude in certain villages for certain kind of work. For instance, cigar-making is a thing which will have to be undertaken and worked out with reference to the agricultural produce of the locality. Where tobacco of good quality is available for making cigars and cigarettes and things like that, it will be useful to introduce such an industry. As I said when I spoke on the agricultural grant our main work is one of organization. It is that, Sir, that ought to be much more important than anything else. Sir, the question of finance, the question of marketing will again have to be tackled. Wherever we find co-operative societies for weavers there the goods do not find a sale. This Department of Industries should take up the work of marketing. So if my point of view is accepted the position of the Industries Department in this province will be more to work in co-operation with agriculture and find out as between them the best way of utilizing the time and labour of the population of this country. Sir, having said that, I need not mention that the need for a person who can do this sort of work is postulated when we think of the head of the department. I do see that we are talking in a theoretical manner about industries and say that we want a specialist either in chemistry or in mechanical engineering to be the head of the department. But what we want is a man who will infuse a lot of enthusiasm, a man who knows the rural parts and who can organize, a man who will work untiringly. That is the sort of man we want. I am glad to be able to say that even the Industries Commission which sat in the years 1916–18 has said that that is the sort of man that is wanted and not a technical man as the head of the department. This is what they say, Sir:

'The description which we have given elsewhere, and in particular in Chapter XIV, of the duties which the Director will have to perform, and the proposals which we have made in this Chapter regarding his administrative position and the

24th March 1932] [Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar]

working of his department, will show that he must be a man with special qualifications. *These include, in the first place, business sense, i.e., the capacity of appreciating technical features of industries in their bearing on commercial possibilities and the ability to form conclusions as to the commercial soundness of a* scheme worked out by a technical expert; the power of organization; familiarity with the practical handling of economic questions; and local knowledge.'

"These are the qualifications, Sir, considered essential in a Director by the Industries Commission and the Agricultural Commission which sat two years ago has also endorsed the same view. It said:

'If a Department of Industries is to achieve any success in the promotion and *assistance of rural industries in the ways we have indicated above, its Director* must possess considerable power of organization and also a close understanding of, and sympathy with rural needs. He must also be of a status which would secure that his views carry weight with the business community. The power of organization which we regard as one of the essential qualification for the Directorship of industries might be obtained if the Director were recruited from the business world.'

"So they also say that the chief qualification for a person is power of organization and knowledge of local conditions. That is what is wanted. Whatever may be said about the technical man being proficient in a *particular* subject, I fear we can find very few of these specialists who can run a department like this. He cannot study and frame a programme of work for the department as a whole. It seems to me, Sir, that at least for a long time to come we have to depend on a person who has got these qualifications of organization and local knowledge rather than anything else. I would certainly be against making it a rule that this particular man should be selected from the Indian Civil Service or the Provincial Civil Service or any other service. Government ought for the time being choose the best man available. They should not confine themselves to this service or that. They must select the best man even if he is a business man working outside in a company or a factory. I would suggest to Government to accept a principle like that. They ought to pay more attention to the qualifications rather than the service in which he is. Having said that I am in a position to congratulate the hon. Minister in his choice of the Director in the present instance. I know Mr. Ramakrishna is an Indian Civilian. He has been in charge of a big zamindari. He has worked there with considerable success. Not only that, he has introduced a number of reforms including industrial reforms. He is a very enthusiastic man and I know he has taken to his work very seriously. We want a man of that stamp. We do not want that an enumeration of his qualifications should make him slack. But I want that he must try to deserve all that we say and in course of time improve the way in which we are doing things in the department. So, Sir, it is a matter for congratulation rather than the other way that Mr. Ramakrishna has been selected for this place. There is one other matter which I would like to mention here. It seems some adverse remarks have been made here with reference to the work of the Ceramic Expert. I understand that there is some clay available in the northern districts which may be utilized for high-class pottery. If that is a fact I think the expert ought to be allowed to do whatever he can with reference to this work. I hope the hon. Minister will see that an investigation is made to see whether it is possible to do high-class

[Mr. T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar] [24th March 1932

pottery in our province. If that is possible some work will have to be done. If that is not possible Government will have to do whatever is best under the circumstances to retain him or send him away."

45 .m. Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma addressed the House in Tamil as follows :—

" கனம் தலைவர் அவர்களே ! கைத்தொழில் விஷயமாக எனக்கு முன்னர் சில சகோதர அங்கத்தினர் பேசினார்கள். அவர்கள் பேசிய விஷயங்களையே நானும் பேசி பொழுது போக்க விரும்பவில்லை. நான் வேறு சில விஷயங்களைக் குறிப்பிடுகின்றேன். சாதாரணமாய் ஆண் பெண் யாவருக்கும் குறைந்தபட்சம் ஆரம்பக் கல்வியாவது தாய் பாஷையில் நவீன வழியில் காலாநுகூலமாய் அவசியம் சில வருஷகாலம் கொடுக்கவேண்டியிருக்கின்றது. ஜீவனபிவிர்த்திக்காகக் கற்கும் கல்வியானது பொதுவாய் நம் நாட்டின் வறுமைப்பிணியைப் போக்குவதற்கும் அநுகூலமாயிருக்கவேண்டும். தரித்திரம் நீங்குவதற்குக் கைத்தொழில் கல்வியறிவும் அவசியம். ஆகையால் கல்வியும், கைத்தொழிலும், பலரும் படிக்கத் தக்க ஏற்பாடுகள் எங்கும் செய்யவேண்டும். இம்மாகாணத்தின் தலைநகராகிய இச்சென்னையின்கண் 'சித்திர வித்தியாசாலை' (School of Arts) என்றொன்று ஏறக்குறைய அரை நூற்றாண்டாயிருக்கின்றது. அதைப்பற்றி சில விஷயங்களையே முக்கியமாய் எண்டுத்துச் சொல்லுகிறேன். இவ்வித்தியாசாலையில் சிற்ப சித்திர சம்பந்தமான நற்கலைகள் சில கற்பிக்கப்பட்டு வருகின்றன. இக்கலாசாலை உண்டாவதற்கு முன்னமே சில உத்தமர்களின் நன்முயற்சியால் ஆரம்பிக்கப்பட்டு அதுவே பின்னர் 'சித்திர வித்தியாசாலை' என்னும் பொதுப்பெயருடன் நன்கு நடைபெற்று வருகிறதெனத் தெரிகின்றது. இவ்வித்தியாசாலை விஷயமாக கனம் ஹாவல் துரையவர்கள் மிக சிரத்தையோடு பாடுபட்டுள்ளார். இதுவுமன்றித் தான் வந்தகாலத்தும் அதற்கு முன்னும் பின்னும் கைத்தொழில் ஞானம் எங்கும் அதிகமிருந்ததென்றும் எழுதியுள்ளார். சுமார் அரை நூற்றாண்டிற்கு அதிகமாகவே பலகலைவல்லோர்கள் இக்கலாசாலையிலிருந்து போதித்து வந்திருக்கிறார்கள். பலரும் இக்கலாசாலையில் கற்றுத் தேர்ந்து ஓவியத்தொழிலில் விற்பத்தி அடைந்துள்ளார்கள். சிலர் சுயமாய் வேலைகள் செய்து நல்ல நிலைமையிலும் இருக்கின்றார்கள். சிலர் உத்தியோகமும் செய்கிறார்கள். சிலர் கைத்தொழிற் சாலைகளில் சம்பாதித்து ஜீவித்துவருகிறார்கள். ஆதலால் இப்பாடசாலையினால் பயனில்லையென்று எவரும் சொல்லமுடியாது. சுதேசியத்தொழில் ஆதரிப்பும், உண்மை தேசாபிமானமும், எங்குமுண்டாகுமானால் கைத்தொழில் ஞானத்தால் பின்னும் பலரும் ஜீவிக்க ஏதுவாயிருக்கலாம். ஆகையால் இக்கைத்தொழிற் கலாசாலையில் அநேகர் சேர்ந்து படிப்பதற்கு வசதிகள் அதிகம் செய்வதற்கு கவர்ன்மெண்ட் முன்வரவேண்டும். இவ்வித்தியாசாலையில் சம்பளமின்றி படிக்கிறார்களென்று சொல்லினும் அவர்கள் தொகை அதிகமாயில்லை. சென்ற **1931**-*ம் வருஷத்தின் சர்க்கார் வரவு செலவு திட்டஅறிக்கைக் கணக்கைப் பார்த்தால் மொத்தம்* **218** *பேர் கற்று வருகிறார்களென்று வெளியாயிருக்கின்றது. நான்கு கோடிக்கு அதிகமான ஜனத்தொகையுள்ள இவ்விராஜதானியில், ஏறக்குறைய* 5 *லட்சத்திற்கு ஜனத்தொகையுள்ள சென்னை நகரில் குறைந்தது ஐந்நூறு பிள்ளைகளாவது இத்தொழிற் பாடசாலையில் சேர்ந்து வாசிப்பதற்கு வேண்டிய வசதிகள் கவர்ன்மெண்டார் ஏற்படுத்திக் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். பிள்ளைகளும் அதிகமாய்ச் சேர்ந்து வாசிக்க முன்வரவேண்டும். தொட்டதற்கெல்லாம் ஆங்கிலேயப் படிப்பு வேண்டுமென்றால் நமது மனோரதம் எப்படி நிறைவேறப்போகின்றது. ஆங்கிலேயமே பெரிதென்பது நமது குற்றமேயன்றி வேறொருவர் குற்றமல்ல. குறைந்தது ஏழாவது வகுப்புவரை படித்தவர்களைத்தான் சேர்ப்பதென்கிற நிபந்தனை சமீபமாய்த்தான் ஏற்பட்டிருக்கிறதென்று தெரிகிறது. இந்த நிபந்தனை தொழிற்கல்வி கற்றுக்கொள்பவர்களுக்கு* **(Crafts)** *அவ்வளவு படிப்பு அவசியமில்லை என்று எனக்குத் தோன்றுகிறது. தொழில் ஞானம் வேறு. கல்வி ஞானம் வேறு. கைத்தொழிலில் வல்லவர்களெல்லாம் அநேகமாய்ப் படியாதவர்களே. ஆதலால் தொழிலாளர் மக்களும், தொழிற்பயிர்ச்சி பெற விரும்புவோரும் சுலபமாய்க் கற்றுக்கொள்ளக்கூடும். ஆங்கிலேயப்படிப்பைக் கொண்டுவந்து நுழைத்துத் தடைப்படுத்தப்படாது. தாய்பாஷையின் மூலமாய் தொழிற்கல்வி*

24th March 1932] [Mrs. K. Alamelumangathayaramma]

போதிப்பின் நலமாயிருக்கும். சித்திர வித்தை உயர்தர வகுப்பில் கற்போருக்கு ஆங்கிலக்கல்வி அவசியமென்பதை யான் ஒப்புக்கொள்ளுகிறேன். கல்வியின்றி இயற்கையாய் தொழில் ஞானமிருப்பவர்களையும் பரீட்சித்துப் பார்த்து பாடசாலையில் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். சிலகாலத்திற்கு முன்னிருந்ததைப்போல் பன்னிரண்டு வயதிற்கு மேற்பட்டவர்களையும் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். பத்து மணிக்குப் பாடசாலை ஆரம்பிககாமல் அதிகாலையில் அதாவது முன்போல ஆரம்பிப்பின் சிறியோர்களும், பெரியோர்களும், பதது மணிக்குப் பாடசாலைக்குப் போகும் மாணவர்களும், தொழில் ஞானம்பெற விரும்புவோர்களும் அதிகம் பேர் சேர்ந்து படித்துக்கொள்வதற்கு வசதியாகவிருக்கலாம். சித்திர மாணவர்கள் வேறு வேலைகள் செய்துகொளவதற்கும் வசதிகளேற்படும். இவ்வருஷத்தில் சித்திர வித்தியாசாலையில் படிப்போரின் தொகை சுமார் 270 பேர்களென்று தெரிகின்றது. சென்ற வருஷத்தைப் பார்க்கினும் இவ்வருஷம் சற்று அதிகமே என்பதற்கையமில்லை. ஆயினும் இன்னும் அதிகம் பேர்கள் ஒவ்வொரு வகுப்புதோறும் சேர்ந்து படிக்கலாமென்றிருககிறது. உற்சாகபபடுத்துவோரில்லை. சித்திர வித்தியாசாலையில் ஒவ்வொரு பிரிவிலும் படிக்கக்கூடிய வகுப்புகள் ஐந்தாக வைத்திருக்கின்றனர். தச்சுவேலை வகுப்புகளில் (Wood work) சுமார் 68 பேர் கற்றுவருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் 80 பேர்வரை சேர்ந்து பழகலாமென்று தெரிகிறது. செதுக்கு வேலை or சித்திர வேலை (Engraving Department) 59 பேர் கற்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் இன்னும் 20 பேர் வரையிலும் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ளலாமென்று தெரிகிறது. பொன் வேலை (Goldsmith work) 24 பேர் கற்றுக்கொள்ளுகிறார்கள். இத்தொழில் ஓர் பெண்மகள் சேர்ந்து கற்று வருவதறகு சந்தோஷப்படவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. இதுவரை ஆண்மக்கள் தான் செய்து வந்தார்கள். பெண்கள் பலரும் கற்றுக்கொள்வதும் நலமே. உலோக வேலை (Metal work) 34 பேர் கற்கிறார்கள். அதிலும் சிலரினும் சேர்த்துக்கொள்ள இடமுண்டு. அட்வான்ஸ்டிராயிங் (Advanced Drawing) வகுப்பில் 13 பேர் படிப்பது சந்தோஷமே. இதில் இருவர் பெண்களாயிருக்கின்றனர். இவர்களிருவரும் ஆங்கிலேயத்திலும் உயர்தரக் கல்வி வரை கற்றவர்களாயிருக்கிறார்கள். பொதுவாய்ப் பல பெண்களும் சித்திரத்தொழில் படிப்பது நன்மையே. நம் நாட்டின் பழைய சரித்திரங்களைப் பார்த்தால் சித்திரத்தொழில்கள் எவ்வளவோ சிறப்பாயிருந்திருக்கிறதென்றே தெரிகின்றன. பெண்களும் நன்குணர்ந்திருந்தார்களென்பதற்கு ஓர் திருஷ்டாந்தங் கூறுகிறேன். உஷாவின் தோழிப்பெண் சித்திரரேகை என்பவள் எல்லா அரசர்களின் உருவத்தோற்றங்களைக் குறிப்பித்து எழுதிக் காட்டினாள் என்று சொல்லப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. இம்மாதிரியான திருஷ்டாந்தங்கள் பலவிருக்கின்றன. தற்கால ஸ்திரீகளின் நிலைமையானது ‘உலக்கை தேய்ந்து உளிப்பிடியாயிற்று’ என்பதுபோல் குன்றிப் போயிற்று. சித்திரம் வரைதல் பெண்களுக்கு மிகப்பொருத்தமான கலையென்றே சொல்லவேண்டும். பெண்மக்களுக்கு வீட்டுத்தொழில்கள் கற்பிக்கவேண்டுமென்பதில் இதுவும் முக்கியமான தொன்றென்று கூறலாம். தையல் வேலை, நெய்தல் வேலை, பின்னல் வேலை, லேஸ் வேலை, ஜரிகை வேலை, உடைகள் தயாரிக்கும் வேலை, ஜிகனு வேலை, முதலிய பலவேலைகள் அவர்கள் செய்யலாம். அப்படிப் பெண்கள் செய்துவருகிறார்கள் என்பதற்கு திருஷ்டாந்தமாக திருவள்ளூரையடுத்த ஈக்காட்டில் மிஷனெரிகளால் நடத்தப்பட்டுவரும் ஓர் தொழிற்சாலையை நான் பார்த்திருக்கிறேன். அதில் பலபெண்கள் பலவிதமான வேலைகள் செய்து வருகிறார்கள். மிக நன்றாகவே நடைபெற்று வருகின்றது. சமீபத்தில் சென்னை நகர கல்விச்சபையினரால் நடத்தப்பட்ட கல்விப்பொருள் கண்காட்சியை கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் திறந்து வைத்தபோது பாடசாலைகளின் சிறுவர் சிறுமிகளால் செய்து வைக்கப்பட்டிருந்த பலவிதக் கைத்தொழில்களைப் பார்த்து சந்தோஷித்தார். சிறு பிள்ளைகளுக்கு எவ்விஷயத்தில் ருசியிருக்கின்றதோ அவ்விஷயத்திலேயே மிகத்தேர்ச்சி பெறச்செய்வதற்கென்றே தொழிற் பாடசாலைகள் வேறு நியமிக்காவிடினும் சித்திர வித்தியாசாலையையே விர்த்திசெய்யின் நம் நாட்டிற்கு எப்படியும் நன்மை ஏற்படும். வறுமையின் கஷ்டமும் சற்று குறைவுபடும். தொழிற் கல்விக்கு ஆதரவில்லை யென்றே புலப்படுகின்றது. சித்திரவித்தை (Painting) வகுப்பில் 8 பேரும், (Clay Modelling) உருவத்தைப்போல் செய்வதில் 5 பேரும், டிராயிங், டிஸைன் முதலியவைகளில் 49 பேரும் படித்து வருகிறார்களென்று தெரியவருகின்றது. பொதுவாய்த் தென்னாட்டிலேயே சிற்பசித்திர வேலைகள் ஓர் காலத்தில் மிகநேர்த்தியாயிருந்ததென்பதற்கு இப்போதும் அங்கங்கே

பல நிதர்சனங்களுள. மகாபலிபுரம், ஹம்பி முதலியவைகளை விரிக்கிற் பெருகும். சித்திரவித்தியாசாலையில் கம்பளம் நெய்யும் தொழிலும் கற்பித்து வந்தார்கள். இப்போது அதை டெக்ஸ்டையில் இன்ஸ்டிடியூட்டுடன் சேர்த்துவிட்டனர். நம் நாட்டின தொழில்களில் சிலவற்றையாவது மறந்துபோகவிடாயலும், அழியாமல் பாதுகாத்துக்கொள்வதற்கும் ஓர் சாதகமான பாடசாலையை எவ்வளவோ பாதுகாக்க வேண்டியிருக்கிறது. ஆகையினால் சித்திரவித்தியாசாலை நாளிற்கு நாள் மேன்மையடையப் பார்க்கவேண்டுமேயன்றி க்ஷீணிக்கவிடப்படாதென்பதே என கோரிக்கை. சென்ற வருஷத்தில் சித்திரவித்தியாசாலையின் நிமித்தம் செலவு 54,117 ரூபாயாயிற்றென்று அறிவித்துள்ளார்கள். சிக்கனக் கமிட்டியார் (Madras report of Retrenchment Committee) அப்பாடசாலையின் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் தலைமை போதகருக்கும், வேறு சிலருக்கும் சம்பளங்களைக் குறைத்தும், செலவுகளைக் குறைத்தும் வரின் (8,000) எண்ணாயிரம் ரூபாய் மிச்சப்படுத்தலாமென்று கூறியுள்ளார்கள். பணத்தட்டென்று சொல்லி சித்திரவித்தியாசாலைக்கு ஆகும் செலவுகள அநாவசியமென்று வாதித்து அதை அடியோடு மூடிவிடப் பார்க்காமல் விருத்திக்குக் கொண்டுவர வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன. புதிதாய ஒன்றை ஸ்தாபிப்பது கஷ்டம். இருப்பதைப் பாதுகாப்பது கஷ்டமல்ல. கனம் மந்திரியவர்கள் இவ்விஷயமாக நனகு கவனிக்கக் கோருகிறேன. எனக்கு முன்பாக சில அங்கத்தினர்கள் பேசியபோது கள்ளிக்கோட்டை சோப் தொழிற்சாலையிருப்பது வீண் செலவேயன்றி லாபமில்லையென்று பேசினார்கள், சுதேசத்தொழில் விர்த்தியடைய வேண்டுமெனபோர் இத்தொழிற்சாலையில் செய்வதையே என் உபயோகிக்கப்படாது. தேசாபிமானிகள் அவசியம் வாங்கவேண்டும் சுதேசத் தொழில்கள எவைகளுமே நஷ்டமின்றி லாபமுண்டாக வழி செய்யவேண்டும். கனம் கல்வி மந்திரி அவர்கள் தென்னாட்டு வாசியும், ஆங்கிலக்கல்வியுடன தமிழ்க்கல்வியிலும் பற்றுடையவருகையால் தேச நிலைமையை நன்குணர்ந்து தக்கபடி ஆதரித்து பதிலளிக்க வேண்டுகிறேன்."

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—"I am thankful to the hon. Members of the House for the very valuable criticisms which they have made with regard to the department of Industries. I only wish that my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, in justice to his own age and to his experience, had not made a contribution to this debate so undignified, so irresponsible and so destructive. With a good deal of eloquence he pleaded for the closing of more than one institution which is in charge of the department of Industries. He may be right or he may be wrong in these criticisms, but I was waiting to see if in his opinion there was one institution which he desired to be kept open, but I was very sadly disappointed to see that the whole of his speech was exhausted by this destructive criticism of his.

"Again, Sir, he made a statement with regard to which I say he has exhibited very regrettable irresponsibility. I would ask you to remember that in making the appointment of the Director of Industries it is His Excellency the Governor on the advice of the Minister that makes the appointment. When he said that it was made without an adequate realization of our responsibilities and that we did not act as free agents in making that appointment, I can hardly find words in which I could characterize that statement. I leave it to the hon. Members of this House to decide if the statement of the hon. Member to that effect deserves any consideration at all. Last year speaking in this House on the very same subject with regard to the qualifications required for the Director of Industries this hon. Member advised me that it was necessary to recruit a man who had training in a business

24th March 1932] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

concern. I also find that the cut motion which this hon. Gentleman has given notice of is for the purpose of urging the appointment of a suitable person from outside the Government service. He wanted, if I understand this cut motion rightly, and I am sure hon. Members of this House would agree with me when I say, that it is the only interpretation that could be put upon that cut motion—a man who is not in Government service, i.e., a non-official to be appointed as Director of Industries. And you heard what the hon. Member said to-day and I wonder what could have been the reason which led to the conversion of this hon. Gentleman to this view. Before he undertakes to advise me or the Government, I would advise the hon. Member to make up his own mind with regard to this matter. I am sorry that he indulged in a comparative estimate of the merits, qualifications of individuals in an endeavour to show how the Government's nominee suffered in comparison with his favourite. I most strongly depreciate an attitude of this kind on the part of any hon. Member of this House. Such criticisms do not contribute anything towards the value of debate. On the other hand they bring the level of the debate to the lowest possible standard of decency.

"Having said that, I must certainly thank the other hon. Members for their valuable criticisms and for the courteous way in which they have levelled those criticisms. I can assure them that I will put their suggestions into operation as much as I can.

"I am glad that the value of research in the Industrial Department has been very well emphasized by my hon. Friend from Coimbatore. I may perhaps be allowed just to read a sentence or two from the Report of the Research Committee of the Imperial Conference held in London. They have laid the same emphasis on research work. This is what they say:

'The Research Committee of the Imperial Conference being convinced that progress will in future be dependant to an increasing extent upon the growth and application of scientific knowledge desire to direct the attention of the various Governments of the British Commonwealth of Nations to the importance of making adequate State funds for the State preparation on scientific research into the various problems affecting the material well-being of mankind. They also desire to strongly urge that the severe economic depression which the British Empire in common with the rest of the world is suffering from must be regarded as a reason not for the curtailment of expenditure on research.'

"Sir, in a country like ours which is industrially so undeveloped I should have expected that this House with one unanimous voice would support the Government if they undertake research work and experiments in industries. On the other hand I find that the hon. Member, to whose performances I have already alluded, criticizes the attitude of the Government.

"With regard to the general policy of the Government in pioneer work *Government have made it absolutely clear that it has never* been their intention, nor will it be their intention in future, to compete with private undertakings. This is what they have said more than once:

'In starting pioneer factories the object in view is not to start State trade but to test the possibility of manufacturing certain articles which are in use and which have been imported from year to year from other parts of India . . .'

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [24th March 1932

" This, as I said, is the policy of the Government and the Government do not want to compete with private concerns. But the Kerala Soap Institute has been mentioned as one instance in which there has been a departure from this policy. I wonder if hon. Members who advanced that criticism are aware of the work that is being done in the Kerala Soap Institute. It is not engaged in the mere manufacture of soap. The quality of soap manufactured in the institute is very superior and Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon are regular customers of this Soap Institute. The main object of the continuance of that institute is not, as I said, to compete with any private enterprises of soap manufacture, but the educative work of training students in soap manufacture.

" I do not know why my hon. Friend, Mr. Yakub Hasan, being a tried Nationalist should condemn this institute which is a nation-building work. He asks me as to how long we are going to continue spending on that institute. I am sure if he spends a moment's thought on that he himself would feel assured that we are not engaged here in wasting money, but we are promoting an industry which we honestly believe to be in the interests of this Presidency. More than 20 apprentices are now being trained there in soap manufacture and they come from various parts of our country, not only from this Presidency but also from Bombay. When they go out from the institute they start this industry in their respective places.

" Hon. Members must remember that a great deal of work has to be done with regard to experiments in vegetable oils and fats. That is one of the matters with reference to which the Economic Enquiry Committee has made several recommendations. That is a branch in which this institute is doing special work.

" Such are the real requirements of the country, that is to say, research work must be undertaken, experiments in new industries and pioneer work have to be started. I am only asking hon. Members of the House to view these industries with greater patience than some of them seem to have and also to see how far these industries will be a source of profit to the country ultimately.

" I do not propose to detain the House at very great length. With regard to the qualifications of the Director of Industries, my hon. Friend from Coimbatore has read out passages both from the Industries Commission Report and also from the Report of the Agricultural Commission which are certainly authoritative pronouncements. I have nothing to add to what is contained in those reports. It is not because that a particular individual is 'A' or 'B' that he is appointed to the post but because of his experience and qualifications and the width of outlook that he possesses that he is appointed to the post. As was pointed out the great need in this Province is how to supplement the income of the poor agriculturist by some other income. That can be done by the promotion of cottage industries alone. That must be the main object with which the Industries Departments in this Province as well as in other Provinces of India must work. I am glad to see that our Industries Department is directing its attention to such industries

24th March 1932] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

as will result in supplementing the income of the agriculturists. Ericulture is one about which several hon. Members have already spoken and with regard to which several cut motions have already been given notice of with a view to urge the Government to take up more active work in that direction. It has even been suggested to me by one of the leading hon. Members of this House that ericulture has got such great potentialities in the future that it must be made as one of the subjects in the curriculam in Elementary schools. That is a suggestion which certainly deserves the best consideration. It is a matter for satisfaction whether the Industries Department by the successful experiments that it has made in this line has also demonstrated to the people of this Province how easily this industry can be undertaken by others also.

"There are other smaller cottage industries which are also at present engaging the attention of the Industries Department and I hope that these attempts also will meet with success.

"My hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed pointed out to me that there 3-1 were still possibilities of retrenchment in this department. On the p.m. other hand the hon. Member Mrs. Alamelumanga Thayarammal complained that the retrenchment already effected has been too much. Mr. Basheer Ahmed said that there were some posts in the department which could be easily abolished without any loss of efficiency. If there were any, I would certainly have no objection to abolish those posts. If on the other hand the abolition of any post is likely to result in the deterioration of the efficiency of the department and its usefulness to the people, I certainly will not be a party to such retrenchment.

"Sir, I shall not detain the House any longer as I have already exceeded the time allotted to me. I have given an assurance with regard to retrenchment proposals about which my hon. Friend Mr. Basheer Ahmed seemed to be very particular. I hope he would not press his motion."

The motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXV—Industries—Transferred, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,42,600 was carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XXVI—FISHERIES—TRANSFERRED

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs.* 6,44,300 *under Demand XXVI—Fisheries*'."

* Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—"Mr. President, I move that the allotment of Rs. 6,44,300 be reduced by Rs. 100. I want to discuss the Fisheries policy of the Government. There are various branches of work in the fisheries department, but to-day I want to confine myself mainly to the question of marine fisheries. I do not think, Sir, that the public generally—and I include hon. Members of this House also—recognize the great importance of marine fisheries. The

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [24th March 1932

importance of marine fisheries has been recognized in western countries and they are developed to a great extent. If we look into the incomes derived from marine fisheries by various countries of the world it is remarkable to find the very large sums of money that they realize from the development of marine fisheries. England alone gets about ten million pounds a year from this source and even very small countries derive a large income from marine fisheries. Coming to countries nearer home, Japan has a very highly developed fishing industry although it is rather curious that the average catch per head per annum is only three tons while even in our undeveloped conditions we get somewhere about seven tons per head per annum. It is curious that all this wealth is drawn from the sea, mostly from that part of the sea lying near the coast. The resources of our sea coast are at present beyond the reach of ordinary fishermen. There is one point about these marine fisheries which I should like to put prominently before the House before I go into any detail in this matter: while, for instance, agriculture is subject to the vicissitudes of the seasons and the ryot either gains or loses in accordance with the annual rainfall, whether it is copious or scanty, the marine fisheries are already there and are only waiting to be exploited. The wealth of the sea is there ready to be exploited by those who have got the necessary means of doing it and the object of the Fisheries department ought certainly to be to develop these marine fisheries to the highest possible extent so as to increase the wealth of the country. Particularly at the present time when the income of the people has gone down, any methods that could be suggested for increasing the earnings of the people and wealth of the country ought to be welcome.

" In connexion with the development of marine fisheries we have various problems to solve. First of all we have to know what kinds of fish and what quantities are obtainable in the various parts of the sea coast. Fortunately for us we have a coast-line of about 1,600 miles in this Presidency which means so much potential wealth waiting to be developed. We have to investigate the occurrence of the fish and the various kinds of fish that occur in various places at various distances from the coast. For instance, we had in some years the pearl fisheries and the income derived by the Government in the years when we had pearl fisheries was not an inconsiderable amount: it went up to two lakhs and more. The occurrence of these pearls is a very uncertain factor; in some years we have the pearl oysters and in some others we do not have them. The pearl oysters are found in what are called pearl banks which correspond to shoals in the sea where the water is not more than 10 fathoms deep. It has been considered and I think it is a very reasonable assumption that these pearl oysters must have a permanent habitat somewhere near the pearl banks. Otherwise we could not explain their appearance and disappearance. They must be breeding somewhere and the opinion of the experts is that the pearl oysters we are fishing are the mere overflows and the main groups of them are elsewhere. We do not know where they are to be found and the question is how we are going to investigate the sea bottoms and find out

24th March 1932] [Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar]

where these pearl oysters really have their permanent homes, where possibly they are in a position to be exploited and to produce more than we have been able to get from the pearl banks. Of course, an investigation of this kind to produce valuable results needs appliances. The exploration of the sea bottom certainly means certain kinds of appliances. It was with a view to solve many of these problems that this Government purchased a trawler some years ago. The Government wanted to investigate besides into the nature and quantity of fishes that can be obtained particularly in the regions beyond the reach of the ordinary fishermen. They also hoped to solve other cognate problems, such as the periodicity of the occurrence of pearls, the chank fisheries and so forth. But unfortunately the trawler has had bad luck about it ever since it came. I am not going to apportion the blame, but from the very beginning, the boilers of the trawler have been giving trouble and now they are in such a hopeless condition that the trawler cannot be used unless we replace them by new ones. What are we going to do with the trawler? I am aware that the retrenchment committee recommended that the trawler should sold in public auction. But I wish to bring a few points to the notice of the members of the House to enable them to see whether it would not be wise to postpone the question of the disposal of the trawler at least for a few years more. For one thing, a few years ago the Fisheries Committee was appointed of which my hon. Friend the Minister was chairman. That committee recommended amoug other things that the trawler should be employed to carry on investigation of marine fisheries along the coast line, particularly from Madras to Point Calemere and from Calicut to Mahé. A portion of this work has already been done. Although the trawler had been actually at work for a short time only, results of value appear to have been obtained. On the west coast a fish freezing industry has been started and I believe there is a demand from people there that practical demonstrations should be made so as to enable fishermen to utilize the new motor coble which works with the trawler. They have asked for demonstrations concerning the use of the coble with the seine net in areas beyond the reach of the ordinary fishermen. I believe the Fisheries Department have already obtained this motor coble which is waiting to be used somewhere near Negapatam or on the west coat. It is waiting for work. In addition to this, on account of the investigations carried out by this trawler on the east coast, it was found that the east coast possessed great potentialities in the way of marine fisheries. While for instance the investigations of the trawler demonstrated the value of the in-shore fisheries on the west coast, it has been found that the most valuable fisheries of the east coast exist beyond the reach of the ordinary fishermen. I believe there is a demand also from the people of the Tanjore coast for similar demonstration work to be carried out there so that they can start the industry for supplying fish not only to the neighbouring villages but to towns and cities beyond. I believe, Sir, on account of the facts revealed by the investigations of this trawler off the coast of Tanjore a fleet of Japanese ships recently fished on the Tanjore coast and were able to carry away a catch of shark fins worth thousands of rupees.

[Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar] [24th March 1932

30 m. " In view of the fact that the trawler has been able to do good work within a short time, in view of the fact that it has been possible to have new developments on account of this trawler, I would ask my hon. Friend whether he would not consider the possibility of keeping this trawler for a year or two more, and see whether more can be done in the way of the development of the valuable marine fisheries. After all, it would not cost the Government more than Rs. 12,000 to put the trawler in good working order. The trawler itself would be worth Rs. 1 lakh. The cost of a new boiler would not be more than Rs. 12,000. Nobody wants to purchase the trawler; nobody would agree to have it except as scrap iron. Is it worth while selling a valuable vessel like that? The trawler has demonstrated its utility within a very short time. Is it wise not to spend a small sum of money and put the trawler in working order? Here I may be permitted to mention what the enterprise in Ceylon has already achieved in the matter. As a result of their investigations, industries were started in Ceylon and private companies are carrying on a profitable trade in fish. I would ask the hon. Minister to put the trawler in working order instead of disposing of it for the price of scrap iron."

* Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" Sir, it is very unfortunate that the Government have not been able to give effect to any of the important recommendations of the Fisheries Committee, of which the hon. the Minister was himself the Chairman. The strongest recommendation made by the Committee was for reduction in the issue price of salt. The Government conceded the justice of the claim in regard to this matter and it was under consideration for a fairly long time. Last year during the budget discussion, the hon. the Minister referring to this matter, said ' whatever may happen to the other recommendations of the Committee, I shall try my best to see that this legitimate grievance of the fisher-folk is removed at least next year.' I ask him what he has been able to do in regard to this matter. There has been deterioration in fishing on the West Coast during the last five or six years. The fishing season was very bad last year and there has been no appreciable improvement even this year. This deterioration in fishing has affected considerably the transactions in the fish-curing yards. The Government have closed a number of fish-curing yards during the current year. They are not willing to reopen them unless the curers guarantee to make good the deficit between revenue and expenditure. I am told that at Hosahettu in South Kanara, the curers had to make security deposit of Rs. 400 for having the fish-curing yard there reopened. If the Government adopt the policy of collecting the loss incurred in running these yards, one would like to know why they do not do so in all cases. In certain fish-curing yards, for instance, the one at Malpe, Government are making great profit. The Government ought to help curers by reducing the issue price of salt. It has been declared more than once that fish-curing yards have been established in the interests of public health so as to enable curers to cure fish on hygienic and sanitary lines. The Government of India are foregoing their duty on salt to help the fishing community; but the Madras Government are not willing to incur any loss in regard to these fish-curing yards. The Government have said

24th March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

often that the object of the Fisheries department is not the production of revenue, or the realization of profit but progress and development. In what way have they been able to give effect to this declaration of policy?

"In the matter of the trawler—the unfortunate history of which has often been told in this House—the Government made an initial blunder in buying a second-hand vessel. They paid for the vessel £3,000 and they have spent for her improvement and repairs more than Rs. 80,000. Ever since this trawler arrived here in 1926, she has not been able to spend much time in deep-sea fishing. She has been constantly undergoing repairs. The object of purchasing this trawler was to undertake a research all round our coast, to locate fishing grounds at a distance beyond which our ordinary country boats cannot go and thus create a deep-sea fishing industry. The trawler is said to have discovered some new fishing grounds last year. In answer to a question it was said only this morning that the Japanese had taken advantage of this discovery, they had come in a trawler and made large catches of fish near Negapatam. The period of contract with Captain Cribbs is coming to a close at the end of this month. The Government have therefore welcomed the *recommendation* of the Retrenchment Committee and decided to dispose of the trawler on the best terms possible. My hon. Friend, Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar, was a little while ago telling us about two gentlemen—one of whom belongs to South Kanara and another to Madras—who are anxious to get motor-boats and work these fishing grounds which the trawler has discovered. I understand that the department has got down a motor-boat for the purpose of finding whether these fishing banks could be exploited. The Government should try and demonstrate whether the motor-boat could be used for deep-sea fishing. The Government are not prepared to spend any more money on this research work; they have spent lakhs and lakhs of money and suffered huge losses in trying experiments in forest exploitation; still they have not given up their policy of forest exploitation. I do not understand why they should follow a different policy in this matter. I would request the hon. Minister to see whether they could not give a last trial and find out by means of the motor-boat whether they can get at these new fishing grounds which are supposed to have been discovered by the trawler. If the Government close the experiment at this stage all the money that has been spent in this direction would be a mere waste.

"At Tanur there is an experimental station where investigation in the matter of drying, and curing fish, and of manufacturing oil and guano and fish manure is said to be made. No doubt this station has achieved something in these directions and done some work in the past. But for a considerable time now, no person with any research qualifications has been in charge of this station. I understand that the station has now become practically a fish-curing yard. What the Government did in the matter of the Chaliyam Cannery must be known to at least some of the hon. Members of this House. The experiment at this station was for the purpose of finding out the possibility of canning fish

of a quality and flavour equal to western products with a view to place them in the market at favourable prices. But this experiment was not given a fair chance, though the Fisheries Committee recommended that the cannery should be continued and improved. I wish to know what has become of the proposal for the reorganization of the Fisheries Training Institute. The Government will have to consider whether there is a necessity for continuing this institute, in view of the fact that there is no proposal to start any new Fisheries Schools now or in the near future. We have a number of Fisheries Schools on the West Coast. No systematised vocational training is given in these schools. Let Government consider whether it is necessary to continue these schools as special schools or whether they can be transferred to the local bodies. The maintenance of the Fisheries Schools as separate schools can be justified only if they give any useful instruction and contribute to the improvement of the knowledge and methods of our fishermen.

·45 m. "We have a number of co-operative societies in Malabar and South Kanara. The report says that these societies are all in a dormant condition. A special inspector was appointed in 1930 for the rectification and intensive supervision of these societies. One would like to know how far he has succeeded in achieving this object. The Government may also consider whether it is necessary to maintain these societies under the control of this department or whether these societies could be transferred to the Co-operative department.

"Finally, Sir, I would request the hon. Minister to see whether he cannot think of sending some young men of the fishing community to any of the western countries or to Japan where they can learn higher fishery science. The work of this department is not proving fruitful on account of lack of men competent to do research work. The Fisheries Committee as well as the Director of Fisheries have pointed out the necessity for appointing a fisheries biologist, a fisheries bio-chemist, a pisciculturist, and such other experts in fisheries. There is no place in India for training people in higher fishery science. So, the Government ought to take as early an opportunity as possible to send a few men for higher studies in fishery science to some foreign countries where such a course of training is available."

* Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"Mr. President, Sir, I shall add only a few words to what has been said by my hon. Friends, Mr. R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and Mr. Shetty. It seems to me it is a great pity that it should have been decided that the steam trawler attached to the Fisheries department should now be sold. We have heard a good deal to-day about the desirability of the State taking charge of or having control over industries; and there is no more profitable industry than the fishing industry so far as India is concerned. Reference has already been made to the fact that in Ceylon the fishing industry has been aided considerably by the Government, with the result that now a private firm has taken over the concern. It has been laid down as a principle that the State should not interfere with industries more than is absolutely necessary, and that when an industry has been put on a proper footing, it should be given over to private enterprise. Has that stage been reached

24th March 1932] [Mr. M. S. Sreshta]

in regard to the deep-sea fishing industry which it was intended to promote by the purchase of the steam trawler? I am afraid, Sir, that a good deal of money has been spent over this trawler. A large sum of money was spent on its purchase and also on subsequent repairs; and when the usefulness of this trawler is being demonstrated, it has been decided to give up the trawler. Apparently, this is due to the retrenchment mania that has come over us. I do not in any way criticize the Retrenchment Committee; no doubt they went on the materials before them. It looked as if the trawler was not a profitable concern. But it has been shown now—and in replies to the interpellations that have been put recently—that by reason of the use of this trawler, fishing beds have been discovered near the Tanjore district and near South Kanara. Therefore, it seems to me that the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee may now be revised by the Government. The Government have got sufficient materials for revising that recommendation. The Retrenchment Committee has done its work very well. I am afraid it has done it too well, and now it is for the Government to decide whether every one of its recommendations should be accepted. Whatever may be said about other recommendations, I think the recommendation as regards the trawler should not be accepted. After all, it will not cost very much to replace the boiler which I understand is defective in this trawler. At any rate, it would not cost so much as buying an entirely new trawler, and I think the additional cost may be borne by the Government in view of the results which will follow. This is not the first time, Sir, that there has been a loss in connexion with a Government concern. Already reference has been made to the Chenat Nayar scheme and other schemes in which there has been a loss; but because a loss has been incurred in a few concerns, we should not give up a policy which is sound and we should not decide that in future we are not to undertake any new enterprise. If the Government takes up this attitude, what is the use of the Government taking up State control of the industries? They are not in the same position as private people who have not got large capital to invest. I ask, Sir, is it not the duty of the Government to go to the rescue of the public and say 'we will take up this concern; we will spend as much as we can of Government money, because it is an experiment which ought to be tried, and is an experiment which the public will not try themselves.' Have we not got this in Soviet Russia? We hear a good deal about the five years' plan which has now been converted into a ten years' plan. We understand production there has been increasing every year two-fold and three-fold. The agricultural machinery in use in Russia has increased by about 3,500 per cent; the number of agricultural tractors has increased by about 1,500 per cent. And here in India we are afraid to spend a little of State money for the sake of public good! I think we must demonstrate, so far as this trawler is concerned, that we are not very shortsighted and that in the interests of the State, we are prepared to spend a little more money as an experimental measure. As I said, the Soviet farms were a great failure in Russia. The loss there was a huge amount; but the Russian Government paid up the total loss, and then instead of abandoning the experiment, went a step further

[Mr. M. S. Sreshta] [24th March 1932

and adopted what they called 'communal farms' and similar farms which have, as I have said, now proved a great success. In these days of large scale methods, in these days of mechanization of processes, of intensive research, it will be tremendous folly for the Government, in a small matter like this—of a steam trawler—to give up the experiment, frightened by a small loss.

"Now, coming back to the fishing industry in South Kanara, one reason why I press that this steam trawler should be retained is that a very enterprising merchant of South Kanara has started at Malpe a refrigerating factory in which fish is kept in ice and exported to other districts. He has made a great success of this business, and he wants to go further and go in for deep-sea fishing. While he is endeavouring to do so, we will be crippling his activities if we give up this trawler. If this trawler were available, it would help him to see whether deep-sea fishing was possible, and if it was possible in the South Kanara coast, it would be of great help to the fishing industry itself. In this connexion, I should also mention that the fishing industry suffers a great deal by reason of heavy railway freights. Owing to the unfortunate Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, the fishing industry of South Kanara has greatly suffered. A great quantity of fish used to be exported from South Kanara to Mysore by these vehicles. Unfortunately, this Act—this sweeping measure—has been enacted and the result is that a great many industries are suffering, one of which is the fishing industry of South Kanara. And added to this blow, we are getting the other blow now, of the proposed abandonment of the trawler. I trust, Sir, that the hon. the Minister who is most sympathetic and who takes a tremendous amount of interest in industries generally, will see his way to revise the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee and decide that this trawler should be retained."

Mr. K. P. Raman Menon:—"Mr. President, Sir, this morning, in answer to a question put by me, the hon. Minister said that the trawler was going to be sold. In view of the fact that deep-sea fishing is to be investigated and in view of the fact that it is a nascent industry which ought to be encouraged—and particularly because when we look into the papers connected with the case we find that it is a source of large income to the public, if successfully worked—is it not essential that there should be a trawler to investigate this question of deep-sea fishing? If the present trawler is to be sold, what does Government propose to do in regard to this industry? I want information about that point. Anyhow, if we are to go on with deep-sea fishing and investigate all the various questions that arise in connexion therewith, some trawler or other will be necessary. Whether repairing this trawler and utilizing it is more economical or whether purchasing a new trawler is in the best interests of the industry, is a question for the Government to decide. I would only earnestly appeal to the Minister to see that this scheme of deep-sea fishing is not dropped altogether, that facilities are given to the department to investigate the question to find out new sources of income from Fisheries. That point, Sir, I wish to emphasize, and place before the hon. Minister. I do not think, Sir, anything more need be added in this connexion."

24th March 1932]

* The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—" Mr. President, Sir, as on the occasion of the Budget discussion last year, this year also I am in the very painful and unenviable position of having my own report as Chairman of the Fisheries Committee being quoted against me. The Retrenchment Committee has gone into the expenditure of this department very carefully and it has been somewhat generous in allowing its activities to continue except with regard to this ' Lady Goschen '. This generosity is only apparent and not real, for the result of the retrenchment proposed is, as my hon. Friends observed, to make this department very ineffective. The one most important direction in which the Fisheries department was expected to do work of a useful character was research and investigation with regard to deep-sea fishing. The work had just been started and it was an ambitious programme that the Government had laid before itself and the Captain that they had engaged for this purpose was one who had considerable experience in similar work in the North Sea. It was their object to draw a chart of the seas round this Province which would be of great use to the fisher-folk of this Province. The choice of the vessel was, as was pointed out, a very unfortunate one. From the very beginning it gave trouble, and the expenditure incurred on the repairs itself swelled to a very large figure. And quite recently when it was engaged in an expedition, which was quite unconnected with the Fisheries department, its boiler gave way, and in its present condition, it is not seaworthy at all. It was at one time thought that if we replaced the damaged boiler by a new boiler, we should be able to get a better price for it; but now, it is feared that it would be a case of throwing good money after bad and the Government have therefore decided to sell it for a reasonable price, if the trawler would fetch a reasonable price, even in its present condition. With regard to this trawler, I may perhaps quote what the Retrenchment Committee say, as that is perhaps the best presentation of the other side of the case:

' The Committee discussed at some length the future of the trawler " Lady Goschen " and the establishment employed on her. The Director informed the Committee that important species of fish had been discovered by the trawler at considerable depths between 12 and 30 miles from the East Coast; but they were by no means convinced that these fishing grounds could ever be worked profitably by the fishing community of Southern India, and in view of the disastrous history of the " Lady Goschen ", which they can only regard as having been a most unsatisfactory bargain, they decided to recommend that the " Lady Goschen " should be disposed of on the best terms possible and that the services of Captain Cribb should be dispensed with as soon as practicable with due regard to economy.'

" Sir, that was a recommendation which it was difficult for the Government to reject, especially in view of the fact that a very large outlay was required if the vessel was to be continued. The cost of the new boilers and of refitting them was variously estimated on different occasions and by different people and the cost, I think, at a reasonable estimate may be taken to be anything between Rs. 20,000 or Rs. 30,000 and I do not think my hon. Friends in this House would advise the Government to spend such a large sum as that in these days of financial stringency, unless the Government were assured that after spending this amount they would get their money's worth. My hon. Friends who spoke on this motion brought to my notice some facts 4 I

[Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar] [24th March 1932

which have transpired since the Retrenchment Committee met and made its recommendation. The discovery recently made by some Japanese fishing boats is a new matter and we have not yet had the full report which we expect the Director of Fisheries to make on this matter. The information that we have got till now is not quite definite, but we are told that valuable fish were found about 15 to 20 miles off the sea coast and that they were offered for a very high price which the men on the coast towns were not prepared to pay and which therefore had to be taken back by the Japanese boatmen. These are matters which require investigation. My hon. Friend also brought to my notice that there is a demand for the services of this trawler from other quarters also. If, in the light of these new facts that have now been brought to my notice, it is possible to revise our previous decision, I shall certainly be glad to do so, but it all depends upon what the results of our investigations with regard to these new discoveries are going to be. And, if these results are not very encouraging and if the Government cannot be sure that the trawler can undertake some profitable and useful work, I must say that it will be very difficult to get the previous decision of the Government revised. I am not among those who have no faith in the work of this trawler at all. If I agreed to the disposal of this trawler, it was because in the present financial conditions it is not possible to spend large sums of money on an uncertain venture like this, but if the Fisheries department is to do any useful work and if the Government in its department of Fisheries is to render the fisher-folk any real assistance, it must be by an investigation of this kind and such investigation must be undertaken even without any certainty of return, either pecuniary or of any other kind. So, as I said, my hon. Friends may take my assurance that if I agreed to this trawler being scrapped at all, it was because financial conditions rendered it necessary to my agreeing to that course. If it is at all possible, as I said, to revise this decision, I shall be glad to do so, but as I have already stated, I am very doubtful that by the present trawler being put on research work, we shall be able to achieve much.

" Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, referred to my statement in the course of my speech last year with regard to the issue price of salt. I am quite as emphatic to-day as I was last year with regard to the need for relief being given to the fishermen on the West Coast in this matter, but in spite of the earnest appeal that was made by the department and by its Director, the Retrenchment Committee allowed financial considerations to outweigh the needs of the fisher-folk and they have made a recommendation that the issue price of salt should be revised, to the disadvantage of the fishermen. I do not think I shall easily agree to that proposal, but however, financial stringency is such that the Retrenchment Committee consisting of responsible Members of this hon. House thought it a sufficient justification for making a recommendation of that kind. If I have not been able to keep up to the promise I made last year, my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, will forgive me because financial stringency alone has stood in the way of my redeeming my promise and I cannot offer better evidence of this than the report of the Retrenchment Committee itself.

24th March 1932] [Mr. S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar]

"Then, Sir, my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, has more than once questioned the necessity for a separate training institute for the teachers of fishing schools. Sir, the continuance of this training institute for fishermen depends upon our view of the question, whether a separate kind of training is not required for the teachers in the fishermen's schools. The Government have acted till now on the opinion that the schools for the fishermen's children require teachers trained in a different way from the teachers trained in the ordinary schools. It was with the idea of giving such a training that this institute was started, and my hon. Friend says that as it is not the intention of Government to extend or to increase the number of these schools, there is no need for this institute. But, I would remind my hon. Friend that there are still many teachers in the schools already in existence who have not been trained in this institute at all, and that it is necessary therefore to give these teachers the necessary training or to replace them by teachers who have been trained in this institute. So, Sir, if the view is accepted that a different kind of training is required for the teachers of these schools from the training given in ordinary schools, then, I should submit that the continuance of this institute is very essential. However, I shall examine the question very carefully in the light of the observations of my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty. The Retrenchment Committee also went into the question and has not recommended that this institute should be abolished. They have recommended its continuance, though on a restricted scale. I have agreed to its continuance on a restricted scale, but I do not think I can agree to its abolition as suggested by my hon. Friend, Mr. Shetty, without a more detailed examination of the question. I am sorry that I am not able to present before the hon. Members of this House a better picture of our activities in the current year than what I have done to-day, but I am sure they will sympathise with the Government for their inability to do more as financial stringency alone has necessitated that inactivity on their part."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"As my hon. Friend, the Minister, gives me an assurance that he may be making further enquiries in regard to the matter, I beg to withdraw the motion."

The cut-motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Demand XXVI—Fisheries—Transferred, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,44,300 was put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XXVII—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS—RESERVED

* The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"Sir, on the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I move—

'*that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,23,700 under Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved*'."

* Mr. A. B. SHETTY:—"Mr. President, Sir, I move—

'*that the allotment of Rs. 9,23,700 for Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved, be reduced by Rs. 100.*'

"As I have not much time before me, I shall try to be brief. The abolition of the post of Labour Commissioner as a separate officer, though temporarily, has created great misgivings in the minds of the depressed classes. When the last Retrenchment Committee proposed the abolition of the post of Labour Commissioner, the Government is said to have rejected the proposal on the ground that it would mean the abandonment of the concentrated work which they were doing for ameliorating the condition of the depressed classes. The same argument applies with greater force to-day, because the department has extended its activities to several more districts and the work done has considerably increased now. I hope, Sir, the present arrangement of delegating the powers to Collectors and leaving the general power of supervision to a Labour Commissioner who is a Member of the Board of Revenue is meant only to be temporary. The strictly labour functions of the Labour Commissioner are proposed to be distributed among the heads of several departments. I submit, Sir, this also would mean the practical abandonment of the concentrated work which the Labour Commissioner has to do in regard to labour questions. Sir, questions connected with labour are assuming greater and greater importance every year. The work in connexion with labour legislation also is bound to grow in volume. Not much attention has been paid to the labour side of the Commissioner's activities so far. The Government will hereafter find it more and more necessary to have a separate officer to deal with labour problems.

"The Retrenchment Committee has proposed the cutting down of the district labour staff. In the Budget for the next year, Sir, I find that the number of special inspectors has been reduced from 96 to 39 and the number of deputy surveyors and overseers from 48 to 18. I am afraid that the usefulness of the work that is now being done by these people in the districts will be very much curtailed by such a drastic reduction in the staff. No doubt, a number of labour schools have been already abolished and some more are proposed to be abolished. In South Kanara, for instance, they have abolished 24 out of 66 labour schools and they are proposing to abolish 10 more such schools. I suggest, Sir, that this policy of abolishing the separate schools for the depressed classes should not proceed at too rapid a pace. Labour schools afford special facilities for the children of the depressed classes. For instance, the labour schools in South Kanara work from 9 a.m. to 1-30 p.m. since they find the children do not come to school again in the afternoon. The teachers go round in the mornings, collect the children and bring them to the school. Many of the local board schools and aided
5 schools are either unwilling to encourage the admission of Adi-Dravida
1. children or they actually refuse admission. In some villages the landlords dissuade their Adi-Dravida tenants from sending their children to the common schools and cases are not wanting where there has been boycott of Adi-Dravida labourers who send their children to the common schools. It is no doubt true that the setting up of separate schools means the perpetuation of the abasement of the depressed classes. It keeps them apart as a separate class unfit to mix with the rest of their fellows. But,

24th March 1932] [Mr. A. B. Shetty]

Sir, until the attitude of the people in this matter changes, it is not right on the part of the Government to go ahead in the direction of abolishing these separate schools.

" Sir, in South Kanara, they have decreased the number of Inspectors from six to two; now each Inspector has to tour in three taluks. Each Inspector is paid a fixed travelling allowance of only Rs. 27-8-0 per mensem. For working in three taluks he is paid the same allowance as a Revenue Inspector who has to work in 30 villages. You can well understand what effective or useful work the Inspectors can, under such circumstances, do in looking after these schools and the house-sites assigned to these people and in allotting lands.

" The deputy surveyor's post also has been abolished in South Kanara. He is required to measure lands and prepare subdivision records. I am afraid that the work in almost all the districts must have suffered a great deal on account of such reductions in the staff. It is no wonder that the labour schools compare very unfavourably with other schools.

" The great bane of the depressed classes is the drink-shop. These people form a great part of what are called the drinking classes. Much of their hard-earned money goes to the drink-shop. About two years ago, Government appointed a Committee in Bombay to inquire into the condition of the depressed classes and suggest measures for their uplift. Many of the witnesses who came before the Committee expressed their desire to see the drink evil put a stop to among the depressed classes. Is the Labour department in Madras doing anything in this direction? Some time ago, I asked a question in regard to this matter and the hon. the Home Member said in reply to it that the Labour department was not doing any anti-drink propaganda among the depressed classes. No other single measure would put so much money into the pockets of these classes as the elimination of the drink evil. No other single measure would help them to raise their standard of living and improve their status in life so much as making them give up drink. The Government through this department must try to do what they can for putting a stop to the drink habit among these people.

" The removal of untouchability is also an essential part of the uplift work. Dr. Ambedkar, speaking at the Round Table Conference, accused the British Government of having done nothing substantial in the direction of removing the disabilities of the depressed classes. These disabilities are most severely felt in Madras. Two of the most widespread difficulties are those that are connected with the denial of access to these people to public wells and the refusal of admission into public schools. The Government ought to be more firm in carrying out their policy of getting their children admitted into common schools and in allowing them access to public wells. I trust the hon. the Home Member will give his earnest consideration to what I have said."

Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDA addressed the House in Tamil.

* Mr. H. B. ARI GOWDER :—" Mr. President, Sir, if I rise to speak 4
I do so to criticize the policy of Government with regard to the depressed 1

classes and the hill-tribes, and if I use strong language I wish to be excused for so doing. Two years ago the Ootacamund Municipal High School began to refuse admission to the hill-tribe, the depressed classes boys coming from outside the municipal limits. The Government encouraged the hill-tribes to open a high school in the district board area. Accordingly a member of the hill-tribes has opened a school with rent-free buildings, etc., found by him. But now the Government are refusing to give any grant-in-aid to this school. The other day I begged the hon. the Finance Member on this behalf; but he put to me a question, asking me 'whether I was not one of the agitators for prohibition?' After saying a word or two I did not discuss with him any further. I left the matter there; and I do not propose to discuss that matter here. But I must appeal to the hon. the Home Member, the Leader of the House, under whose charge these tribes have been placed, to use his influence with the Finance Member and see whether he cannot help us in this matter. I am asking here not for lakhs of rupees, not for crores of rupees but for a sum of Rs. 2,000, a mere pittance. I am asking for a thing which we are entitled to get as a matter of right, since this institution has been started only under the auspices of the Government. I think every loyal subject should get at least bare justice."

* Mr. M. Devadasan :—" Mr. President, Sir, I rise to support my hon. Friend, Swami Sahajanandam. He has discussed the allotment of money that is spent on the various minority communities in this province. I do not propose to traverse the ground already covered by him. I myself have given notice of a cut-motion to discuss the inadequacy of funds allotted for the Labour department. My friends who preceded me have referred to the growth of the Labour department in this Presidency. As a result of the activities of that department, we have achieved some progress. Nobody could deny that. For this, I must thank the Government, also the hon. the Home Member. Hostels have been opened for the depressed classes; houses have been built for them; and roads and burial-grounds have been provided for them. All these are things on which we should be congratulated. But all the same I must submit, as I said in connexion with the resolution of the hon. Mr. Davis discussed last January, that the work so far done hardly touched the fringe of what ought to be done for the depressed classes. The fund allotted for this year, i.e., 1932–33 under this head is only Rs. 9,84,000; while the fund for 1931–32 is Rs. 13,90,000; so much so there is a reduction of Rs. 4,00,000 this year. This reduction has caused much hardship to the depressed classes. The work of the Labour department extended to 20 districts till last year; but in the month of February this work was confined to fifteen dstricts, and the labour schools started in five districts have been abolished. In reply to an interpellation of Mr. Muniswami Pillai, we were informed that 500 schools started for depressed classes pupils had been abolished in the course of six months, from 1st July 1931 to January 1932. After all the number of schools working in the whole of the Presidency is only 1,700. Of these 500 were already abolished; and in February last some 200 or 300 schools have been abolished. And so the number of schools

24th March 1932] [Mr. M. Devadasan]

now working will fall short of 1,000. As hon. Members of this Council will admit, education is an essential thing for the elevation of the depressed classes. If the Government are going to abolish these schools, then may I know how they are going to elevate them? So I say the Government are not justified in abolishing these schools.

"Then, Sir, as a result of the abolition of the Labour department, many of the schemes that have been carried on in the past have to be given up and all the money spent on the schemes in the past has been a waste and has been spent in vain. To this the Government might say that on account of retrenchment they were forced to adopt this course. But if only the hon. the Home Member had taken certain pains as he did in the case of the Police department, he could have saved the depressed classes from this position.

"Mr. Shetty said that these labour schools should continue for some time more. I agree with him whole-heartedly in that expression of opinion. Perhaps Government might justify their action by saying that the cause of education of the depressed classes would not suffer as there are a large number of board schools and private-managed schools. To this I must say there must be separate schools for the depressed classes; otherwise their education cannot prosper. I will explain my point by a few illustrations. The caste system is so rampant in the south that the caste-people refuse to admit depressed classes pupils into their schools, and even if it so happens that they admit them they render their position so hard that they are forced to leave the institutions at as early a time as possible. In the Ramnad district there is a taluk board school, and in it a depressed class teacher was employed. It so happened that he had to teach a class consisting of caste-boys entirely. When he had to teach the class he was forced to sit on the floor, the caste-boys all the while sitting on the bench. After a great deal of agitation, that teacher was transferred to a school where depressed class boys alone had to be taught. Another instance is this. In a place just on the border of Palamcottah there was a private school. There both depressed class and caste-Hindu boys were admitted. But the depressed class boys were segregated in one corner of the school and each was given a two-bricks space and was forced to sit there on pain of severe punishment if he moved from that place. The same sort of treatment is prevailing throughout the Presidency. Only the other day I referred to the treatment meted out to the depressed classes in the Saidapet Taluk Board area as a result of the introduction of compulsory elementary education there. There was boycott of service. If this thing is going on in a place not far off from the City of Madras, the headquarters of the Government of Madras, you can understand what the state of affairs will be in the mufassal.

"Such being the case, I think there should be separate schools for the depressed classes. (A voice from the Ministerialist Bench: 'You are advocating a separatist movement.') I am sorry my friend has misunderstood me. I am asking for separate schools because of the inimical attitude of the caste-Hindus towards the depressed classes.

The caste-Hindus are orthodox and conservative and so I wish that the old arrangement should continue until they change their attitude. I request the pardon of the House if I am offensive.

" Mr. Shetty said that the labour schools do not compare favourably with other schools. I think he is not quite correct there. So far as the labour schools of Tinnevelly are concerned, I may say that their work is very efficient and is better than that of the taluk board and private schools. So the hon. the Home Member cannot say that the necessity for the existence of these labour schools is not felt.

" Large sums of money are allotted year after year for various departments, especially Agriculture, Veterinary, Cinchona and the rest, which after all deal only with one problem of this province. They are relieving the unemployment problem to a certain extent. (Laughter.) Apart from that, they have not produced any tangible result. But if you spend large sums of money on the Labour department the results accruing from it will be many-sided and beneficial. Member after member representing the depressed classes in this House has in the past fought for more funds; but their voices have only been a cry in the wilderness. The other classes of people need not envy us if in the future a larger sum is granted to us; for they have been all along enjoying rights and privileges which were denied to us, and so it is only just that they should now sacrifice something in favour of the depressed classes.

" Finally I would appeal to the hon. the Home Member to restore the abolished schools immediately; because it would be difficult to commence the work once more, and find the necessary money for so doing. But if he passes orders for their restoration at once, then much of the furniture, the buildings and other equipment will not be wasted and so the money spent on them will not be lost altogether. With these words, I request the hon. the Home Member to grant us more money."

·45 m. * The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:— " Mr. President, Sir, my hon. Friend Mr. Devadasan has just said that the representation made by the hon. Members of the depressed classes in this House is a cry in the wilderness. I can assure my hon. Friend that any representation they make on the floor of the House regarding their community will receive my earnest attention. The policy of the Government has always been to do everything in their power to uplift the depressed classes so that they may turn out to be useful citizens. Another hon. Member said that there is a strong feeling about the abolition of the post of Labour Commissioner and allowing a member of the Board of Revenue to do the work of the Labour Commissioner. Sir, in this connexion I may say that the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee was that the Labour Commissionership should be abolished and that his work should be done by a member of the Board of Revenue. The Government after receiving the representations from the depressed classes thought that that should try it as an experimental measure and therefore they have allowed this arrangement to continue as a temporary measure. So after some time when the finances of this

24th March 1932] [Sir Mahomed Usman]

Government improve, they will consider the question whether they should not restore the Commissionership of Labour as a separate office. At that time the remarks made by hon. Members in this House will be borne in mind. It was said that very little attention has been paid to the labour activities of the department. If my hon. Friends look into the administration report of last year, they will find there the detailed activities of the Department of Labour. First and foremost they will find that the department has to administer the Indian Factories Act. Then it has to keep a watch on all the labour disputes and it administers the Trade Union Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act. Besides these, emigration is also under this department. If my hon. Friends go through the administration report they will find the activities of the department regarding the depressed classes. My hon. Friend Mr. Shetty did not approve of separate schools for the depressed classes and wanted that something ought to be done to see that educational facilities are provided for. I may say here that we have to abolish a number of labour schools on account of financial stringency. But all the same I will have a conference with my hon. Colleague the Education Minister and the Commissioner of Labour to see whether we could not do anything in the way of providing better facilities for the depressed classes in the matter of education. My hon. Friend Mr. Sahajanandam has also spoken feelingly on the want of interest on the part of the Government this year. Sir, the thing is this: we have to cut down the expenditure as we have done in the case of every other department. When financial conditions improve, everything will be done to see that the depressed classes' interests do not suffer. My hon. Friend Mr. Devadasan also spoke on the abolition of the labour schools. As I said, I intend to discuss this question with the hon. the Minister for Education and the Commissioner of Labour to see whether anything could be done to provide better educational facilities."

The cut motion was by leave withdrawn.

Demand XXVII—Miscellaneous Departments—Reserved, for a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,23,700 was put and carried and the Grant was made.

III.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR 1932–33.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that as a result of elections held to-day, the following hon. Members have been declared duly elected to (1) the Public Accounts Committee and (2) the Finance Committee respectively:—

Public Accounts Committee.

1. Mr. D. V. Narasimhaswami.
2. Mahboob Ali Baig Sahib Bahadur.
3. Mr. P. V. Rajagopal Pillai.
4. B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur.
5. Mr. Sami Venkatachalam Chetti.
6. Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar.
7. Mr. M. Devadasan.

Finance Committee.

1. Mr. A. B. Shetty.
2. ,, F. E. James.
3. The Kumara Raja of Venkatagiri.
4. The Zamindar of Mirzapuram.
5. Rao Sahib V. I. *Muniswami Pillai.*
6. Khan Bahadur Yahya Ali Sahib Bahadur.
7. Rao Bahadur T. A. Ramalingam Chettiyar.
8. Mr. R. M. Palat."

IV.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

* The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" *I have to announce to the House that* four candidates were nominated for election to the Advisory Committee of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway and of these two candidates have withdrawn their candidature. The continuing candidates are: Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar and Rao Sahib C. Jayaram Nayudu. As the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely two, I hereby declare them duly elected."

V.—*ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE NUMBER OF QUESTIONS* RECEIVED AND ANSWERED DURING THE SESSION.

).m. * The hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I have to inform the House that the number of questions of which notice was received during this session was 1,548. Of these the number admitted was 1,315, that disallowed 189, that referred back to Members of the Legislative Council for further information but not received back from them 41, and that in respect of which the seven days' notice was not waived 3. Of the 1,315 questions admitted, 20 have been withdrawn by the Members putting them and 1,290 have been answered by the Government. Five questions will lapse unanswered."

VI.—DEMANDS PASSED BY THE OPERATION OF GUILLOTINÉ.

As it was past 5 o'clock, the following outstanding Demands were put from the Chair and carried:—

			RS.
DEMAND	XXVIII.	MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS —TRANSFERRED.	10,73,600
Do.	XXIX.	CIVIL WORKS— WORKS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.	51,33,900

			RS.
DEMAND	XXX.	CIVIL WORKS—ESTABLISHMENT AND TOOLS AND PLANT—TRANSFERRED.	31,33,400
Do.	XXXI.	CIVIL WORKS—GRANTS-IN-AID—TRANSFERRED.	70,38,400
Do.	XXXII.	FAMINE RELIEF—RESERVED.	25,000
Do.	XXXIII.	PENSIONS—RESERVED.	61,68,100
Do.	XXXIV.	STATIONERY AND PRINTING—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.	20,34,300
Do.	XXXV.	MISCELLANEOUS—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.	4,14,200
Do.	XXXVI.	AGENCY TRACTS—RESERVED.	23,61,300
Do.	XXXVII.	EXPENDITURE IN ENGLAND OTHER THAN ON STORES—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.	4,34,000
Do.	XXXVIII.	REFUNDS OF REVENUE—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.	7,43,000
Do.	XXXIX.	LOANS AND ADVANCES—RESERVED.	39,81,400

VII.—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS AND PROROGATION.

His Excellency the GOVERNOR then addressed the House as follows:—
" Mr. President and hon. Members of the Legislative Council,

" Before proroguing the Council, there are one or two remarks which I should be glad if I might be permitted to make.

" Madras, in common with the rest of the world, is going through a period of severe financial stringency, but I think it is justifiable to say that the Presidency is passing through the difficult times with which we are confronted in such a manner as to give hopes that our finances

[His Excellency the Governor] [24th March 1932

may emerge from them in a sound condition though they must necessarily be somewhat imparied. For this it should be remembered we are indebted to some extent to the prudent financial administration of our predecessors, but I think it is not unfair to claim that some credit is due to the manner in which the present difficulties have been faced. All officials who have been confronted with a temporary cut in their pay have accepted the situation gracefully and, although hon. Members of the Legislative Council have naturally been critical of retrenchments in various directions the Government gratefully acknowledge that they have not been in any way obstructive or hypercritical. In addition the most sincere thanks are due to the Retrenchment Committee who have spent many laborious hours and days in examining expenditure in all departments and have not shrunk from making recommendations although they might be unpopular. The total of their recommendations excluding the emergency cut in pay and the final effect of their proposals for revised future pay scales amounts to no less than 192 lakhs, of which about $48\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs is still under Government's consideration. I share with everyone the hope that times may soon improve and that Madras can again take the lead, as she has done in the past, in those nation-building activities which are so greatly needed.

15 n. "In spite of our financial difficulties we have been able to make very considerable progress with two of the major works which we have under construction. The outturn on the Mettur Project is ahead of schedule, and a week ago the last set of construction sluices was closed. This marks a definite epoch in the execution of the project, as storage has now begun, and it is proposed to irrigate during the coming season 28,000 acres of land hitherto classed as dry. By the end of this month two-thirds of the dam will have been completed. Every effort is being made to watch expenditure and reduce costs and already two circles in charge of Superintending Engineers and three divisions under Executive Engineers have been closed. It is expected that the work will be completed during 1934 well within the estimated cost. Work on the Pykara Hydro-Electric Scheme has also progressed satisfactorily and we hope to be able to supply power in October next and we shall be able to do so in December at the latest. I feel sure you will agree with me, Gentlemen, that our thanks are due to the staffs employed on both these works for the speedy and efficient manner in which they are being carried through.

"Although, as I have said, recovery from the present depression is dependent on world-wide factors, our capacity for weathering the storm is naturally affected by the seasonal conditions prevailing. I think we may say that on the whole the season has been fairly good. There have been serious floods in portions of seven districts. The Government have sanctioned Rs. 12,700 for the relief of distress in four of these districts and it will probably be necessary to remit about two lakhs of rupees of land revenue on account of flood damages. There has been a partial failure of crop in parts of Anantapur and Bellary which has necessitated suspension of land revenue dues in some of the villages of four taluks of Anantapur and suspension or remission in numerous villages of five

24th March 1932] [His Excellency the Governor]

taluks in Bellary. The Government are anxiously watching the situation and have started relief measures. They have sanctioned, so far, Rs. 64,500 to provide employment for unskilled labour in Bellary district and the attendance on the seven road works in progress was about 4,700 during the week ending 12th March. The trend of prices for staple food grains throughout the Presidency has not recently shown any marked improvement, but I hope that the sharp recovery in the prices of groundnut and cotton augurs well for the future recovery of all commodities.

" A further proof of the determination on the part of the British Government to press on with the reformed constitution has been given by the various committees which have been and are still touring the country to obtain the necessary data to enable a reformed constitution to be launched. We in Madras have had a visit from the Franchise Committee who spent a week here making exhaustive enquiries after having previously sent a questionnaire to the Government and to the Provincial Franchise Committee which had been set up. The replies of both the Government and the Provincial Franchise Committee were subjected to a detailed discussion with the Franchise Committee who have since, as a result, sent a further questionnaire, to which replies have been sent by the Government and the Provincial Franchise Committee. I would express to the chairman and members of the latter committee the most sincere thanks of the Government for the very thorough manner with which they faced what must necessarily be an extremely difficult problem and which had to be examined at high pressure, as the questionnaire was only received shortly before the committee arrived. As a result the Government and the Provincial Franchise Committee were both able to produce balanced schemes which do not agree in some particulars and may not have satisfied all parties, but which provide a sound basis on which to work.

" As I said just now, the presence of those committees in India demonstrates that the British Government are in earnest in following up the measure of success attained at the Round Table Conference and are willing and anxious to establish a new constitution in this country as soon as possible. That being so, I would ask what can possibly be gained by the Civil Disobedience Movement which has unfortunately been raised again? Can it be expected that it will expedite matters when already all are working continuously to obtain the desired end? Is it not far more likely to hamper than to assist the working of the Reforms? Moreover, at a time which is acknowledged on all hands to be extremely difficult, when trade requires the best efforts of all concerned to lift it from the depression into which it has sunk, would it not be better for all to co-operate towards that end instead of embarking on a movement which is in its very essence entirely disruptive and, if successful, would bring all ordered government to an end and which must be resisted here and now if the self-government, which I trust will soon be an accomplished fact, is not to be crippled at the outset by the precedent which that movement is setting up. I would ask all hon. Members of the Council whether they would not earnestly consider the

[His Excellency the Governor] [24th March 1932

matter, and the fact that practically without exception all the recent speeches made in the Council have shown no sympathy—on the contrary have shown disapproval of the movement—encourages me to think that they believe that the better course is that law and order must be maintained and that the best service they can render to their country is to assist the Government to preserve that law and order without which no country can exist. That being so, I would ask them to do their utmost to persuade those who support the movement that the course they are following is a mistaken one. If they will but adopt such an attitude, I am convinced that the influence they wield will do much to restore this Presidency, at any rate, to normal conditions and will materially assist in giving a fair start to a new reformed constitution which will set an example to the rest of India, as Madras has often done before, of how to carry on the administration so that there may be peace and contentment among the citizens of the Presidency.

"Finally, Mr. President and hon. Members of the Council, I would thank you for your labours during the past session. I trust that you will all have a pleasant vacation and will return invigorated in health to assist in dealing with the many problems which will have to be solved in setting up a new constitution.

"I now prorogue the Council."

VIII.—PAPERS PLACED ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. [a] *G.O. No. 143, Finance Department, dated 18th March 1932, regarding the placing of the Report of the Madras Retrenchment Committee, 1931–32, on the table of the Legislative Council.*

2. [b] *Replies of the Madras Franchise Committee to the further questions of the Indian Franchise Committee.*

3. [c] *Letter No. 449-P, Public (Franchise) Department, dated the 20th March 1932, to the Secretary, Indian Franchise Committee, forwarding a copy of the Madras Provincial Committee's replies to the further questionnaire issued by the Indian Franchise Committee together with the views of the Government of Madras.*

R. V. KRISHNA AYYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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[a] Printed as Appendix XX on page 1025 infra.
[b] Printed as Appendix XXI on pages 1026—1033 infra.
[c] Printed as Appendix XXII on pages 1033—1046 infra.

APPENDIX I.

[Vide answer to question No. 1112 asked by Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 841 supra.]

Extract of Press Communiqué No. 15, dated 7th March 1932.

In *Swarajya* of 23rd February 1932 it is alleged that at Gudivada on 21st February 1932 two women picketers were sprayed with water for about 20 minutes until they fell unconscious and were removed to the hospital by the Police. The allegation is untrue ; they fell down pretending to be exhausted but when taken to the hospital the Medical Officer said there was nothing wrong with them.

APPENDIX II.

[Vide answer to question No. 1126 asked by Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 853 supra.]

Heads of Departments and offices under the Law Department.

Education Department—
- Director of Public Instruction.
- Commissioner for Government Examinations.
- Superintendent, Government Museum.

Law (General) Department—
- The High Court.
- Inspector-General of Prisons.
- Chief Presidency Magistrate.
- Chief Judge, Court of Small Causes.
- Judge, City Civil Court.
- Crown Prosecutor.
- Public Prosecutor.
- Government Pleader.
- Government Solicitor.
- Advocate-General.
- Administrator-General and Official Trustee.
- Sheriff of Madras.
- Registrar of Joint-Stock Companies.

Law (Legislative) Department—
- Secretary, Legislative Council.
- Senior Translator to Government.

Law (Registration) Department—
- Inspector-General of Registration.

Appendix III.

[Vide answer to question No. 1135 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 859 supra.]

Name of officer.	Designation.	Pay.	Qualifications.	Period stationed at Mettur up to March 1932.
Mr. V. Hart ..	Engineer-in-Chief.	RS. 3,000 O.P. £13-6-8.	A.M.I.C.E., Chartered Civil Engineer, Passed out of the R.I.E. College, Coopers Hill.	Two years.
Mr. C. G. Barber.	Executive Engineer.	1,375 O.P. £30.	A.C.G.I. Passed out of the City and Guilds College, London.	Three years.
Mr. D. W Gollan.	Executive Engineer and Personal Assistant to the Engineer-in-Chief, Cauvery-Mettur Project.	1,325 O.P. £30.	A.M.I.C.E. Chartered Civil Engineer, Passed out of Crystal Palace College.	One year and 11 months.
Rao Bahadur L. Venkatakrishna Ayyar.	Executive Engineer.	1,225	B.A., B.E., Mechanical Engineer (Hons.).	Five years and eight months.
Mr. H. A. Irwin.	Temporary Executive Engineer.	1,375	F.I.S.E.	Three years and seven months.
Mr. F. T. Learmonth.	Temporary Electrical Engineer.	1,100	Has had wide experience in the erection and maintenance of heavy electrical plant.	Three years and two months.
Mr. P. S. Viswanatha Ayyar.	Assistant Engineer.	450	Engineer, Subordinate Test of the College of Engineering, Guindy.	Three years and five months.
Mr. Y. Harinarayana.	Assistant Engineer.	470	Engineer Test, College of Engineering, Guindy.	One year and one month.
Mr. A. Subramanya Ayyar.	Assistant Engineer.	450	Engineer Test, College of Engineering, Guindy.	Four years and nine months.
Mr. M. S. Bhaskara Ayyar.	Assistant Engineer.	410	Engineer Test, College of Engineering, Guindy.	Five years and four months.
Mr. M. S. Srinivasa Rao.	Assistant Engineer.	390	Engineer, Subordinate Test of the College of Engineering, Guindy.	Two years and six months.
Mr. S. R. Gopalan.	Assistant Engineer.	330	Engineer Test of the College of Engineering, Guindy.	Four years and two months.
Mr. S. R. Narasimham.	Assistant Engineer.	350	B.E.	One year and eight months.

24th March 1932]

Name of officer.	Designation.	Pay.	Qualifications.	Period stationed at Mettur up to March 1932.
		RS.		
Mr. S. Narasimha Kamath.	Officiating Assistant Engineer.	330	B.E.	Five years.
Mr. A. Chidambaram Pillai.	Officiating Assistant Engineer.	310	Engineer Subordinate Test, College of Engineering, Guindy.	Three years and ten months.
Mr. V. Setu Sarma.	Officiating Assistant Engineer.	290	Engineer Subordinate Test, College of Engineering, Guindy.	Four years and ten months.
Mr. B. Ramasomayajulu.	Temporary Assistant Engineer.	410	Mechanical Engineer.	Two years and five months.

APPENDIX IV.

[Vide answer to question No. 1138 asked by Mr. K. S. Sivasubrahmanya Ayyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 860 supra.]

G.O. No. 3194 I., dated 18th December 1931.

The Government have considered the report on the floods of October 1930 in the Tanjore district and the remedial measures suggested by the Superintending Engineer and the Chief Engineer for Irrigation.

2. Floods in the Cauvery delta have been a recurring trouble for centuries, and the partial conversion of what was originally an inundation system into an irrigation system by improvements carried out for many years has not simplified the problem of dealing with them. The difficulties of the question are well-known. Many rivers in the delta function both as drains and as irrigation sources. In the Vennar section the problem is complicated by the fact that during the north-east monsoon this section receives the upland drainage of the Vennar basin, if the upland floods coincide with the river floods the problem is aggravated. In October 1930 the coincidence of the two floods and of an unusually heavy and prolonged local rainfall caused abnormally serious floods and the M.F.L. observed at the Grand Anicut was the highest on record. The Government agree with the Chief Engineer that it is impossible to prevent altogether the ravages of such a flood or to devise adequate measures for disposing of it except at a prohibitive cost. All that can be done is to carry out such works as will afford as large a measure of relief as possible during what may be called ordinary floods.

3. A policy of raising and strengthening the banks of the Cauvery and the Coleroon rivers, and also of some of the other more important rivers, in order to confine the floods to them, is already being followed. The Government doubt the efficacy of raising the banks much further. They consider that the diversion of most of the floods into the Coleroon at the Grand Anicut coupled with improvements of drainage within the delta should mitigate flood damages to a considerable extent.

4. The Superintending Engineer has suggested fifteen works. The Chief Engineer for Irrigation regards the following six (numbered as in Chief Engineer's list) as necessary:—

Item (1) Low level surplus escape above the Grand Anicut.

Item (2) High level escape for the Pamaniyar left bank.

Item (4) Conversion of three dams across the Pamaniyar into regulators.

Item (5) Demolition of two aqueducts across the Korayar and constructing syphons instead.

Item (14) Shifting the head of the Pillai vaikal No. 3 to above the Grand Anicut.

Item (15) Demolition of the Katchamangalam anicut.

The Government direct that estimates may be prepared for these works, to be taken up when funds are available. It may be necessary to supplement them by proceeding with those works which are designed to keep the mouths of the rivers more efficient as outlets for floods, e.g., item 6 (high level escape in the Vettar left bank in Nagore road), item 7 (joining the dead end of Mulliyar with Valavanar and constructing a tail-end regulator) and item 9 (forming modassils and inducing a deep course for the Korayar exit below Pamaniyar (junction).

5. Of the other works proposed, item 3, viz., forming road on the Pamaniyar left bank, is less urgent and may be taken up later on. Items 8 and 10 (nanal plantations in the Karayar and Vettar and nanal and korukkai plantation for delta rivers) are matters of maintenance and repair and should be dealt with as such. The Chief Engineer considers item 11, provision of drainage inlets or breaching sections, to be of doubtful utility and does not recommend it. Item 12, forming roads on main river banks, cannot be taken up all at once and the bits of road most urgently required may be taken up first when funds are available. As regards item 13 concerning telephone lines and sheds, orders have been issued to improve the telephone system.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

A. G. LEACH,
Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX V.

[Vide answer to question No. 1144 asked by Mr. R. M. Palat, at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 863 supra.]

	Price of Paddy, second sort, seers per rupee.	Price of Coconuts per 1,000.		
		RS.	A.	P.
1930.				
April	11·2	35	6	0
May	11·2	32	8	0
June	11·1	26	14	0
July	11·1	25	8	0
August	11·1	25	0	0
September	11·5	26	12	0
October	12·1	27	8	0
November	12·6	28	0	0
December	12·7	25	12	0
1931.				
January	14·2	26	6	5
February	14·8	29	6	0
March	15·4	29	6	0
April	15·3	28	8	0
May	15·6	26	9	7
June	15·9	25	0	0
July	15·8	22	8	0
August	15·1	25	8	0
September	15·5	27	8	0
October	16·7	28	11	2
November	16·6	30	8	0
December	16·5	31	12	0
1932.				
January	17·1	31	12	9
February	17·1	36	4	0
March	..	40	0	0

[24th March 1932

APPENDIX VI.

[Vide answer to question No. 1151 asked by Mr. V. T. Arasu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 870 supra.]

Statement showing the territorial distribution of in-patients admitted into the Tuberculosis Hospital, Madras.

Districts.	1929	1930	1931
Arcot, North	14	5	9
Arcot, South	2	3	9
Anantapur	2	..	..
Bellary	4	..	2
Chingleput	13	25	34
Chittoor	5	2	4
Cuddapah	6	3	1
Coimbatore	2	3	1
Guntur	5	8	1
Godavari, East	1	5	1
Godavari, West	3	..	..
Kanara, South	13	17	15
Kistna	3	2	3
Malabar	15	27	31
Madras and suburbs	296	445	609
Nilgiris	1	..	1
Nellore	8	8	3
Salem	5	..	6
Trichinopoly	4	1	1
Tanjore	3	3	2
Tinnevelly	3	1	1
Kurnool	..	1	..
Ramnad	..	1	2
Madura	..	3	3
Vizagapatam	..	..	2
Native States—			
Cochin	5	3	4
Mysore	3	2	4
Pudukkottai	1	1	..
Travancore	8	3	7
Hyderabad	2	1	..
Other places—			
Bombay	..	4	..
Bengal	4	11	..
Burma	1	..	1
Andamans	1	..	..
Pondicherry	1	1	..
Straits Settlements	1	6	..
Total	435	595	757

APPENDIX VII.

[Vide answer to question No. 1161 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 879 supra.]

List of machines and presses lying out of use in the Government Press at Mint Buildings and Mount Road on 16th March 1932.

Serial number and description of machine. (1)	Date from which the machine is not used. (2)	Probable age. (3)	Probable initial cost. (4)	Reasons for keeping the machine idle. (5)
		YRS.	£	
1. Press, Arming, Albion (Hopkinson and Cope).	15th February 1932.	30	50	On account of the installation of an electric heater which enables work to be done much more quickly, one of the two machines of this kind taken over with the Lawrence Asylum Press in 1913 has become surplus.
2. Machine, glueing and gumming with gas heating fittings (Dickinson).	24th November 1928.	22	25	The working of this machine which also was taken over with the Lawrence Asylum Press in the year 1913 was found uneconomical owing to the small and intermittent issues of bookwork for which manual methods are cheaper.
3. Machine, leather paring (Dickinson).	22nd November 1928.	22	34	One similar machine at the Mint Press is capable of preparing the leather for use at all branches of the Press. This machine which was taken over from Lawrence Asylum Press in 1913 has therefore been discarded.
4. Machine, label punching (Hampson and Bettridge).	24th November 1928.	40	20	An old slow and inefficient machine. The work is now done on newer machines.
5. Machine, ruling, 36 inches (Waite and Sheared).	20th February 1924.	25	55	These machines have become worn out and are quite unserviceable.
6. Machine wire, stitching (Brehmer No. 2804).	28th January 1930.	25	33	
7. Press, Hand Royal (Washington Hoe & Co.) (No. 2739).	7th August 1930.	30	40	

List of machines and presses lying out of use in the Government Press at Mint Buildings and Mount Road on 16th March 1932—cont.

Serial number and description of machine. (1)	Date from which the machine is not used. (2)	Probable age. (3)	Probable initial cost. (4)	Reasons for keeping the machine idle. (5)
		YRS.	£	
8. Machine, Double Royal (*Payne Wharfedale*).	28th August 1931.	29	300	Two new machines were ordered for releasing these two machines for the new Penitentiary Prison Press which was originally expected to be completed in 1931. As the Penitentiary Press was not completed as anticipated the machines in question were dismantled on the arrival of new machines and are now kept ready for transfer to the Prison Press. There is not sufficient floor space available for keeping both the old and the new machines running.
9. Machine, Double Royal (Reliance Wharfedale).	3rd July 1931.	26	300	

APPENDIX VIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 1167 asked by Rai Sahib C. Kolanda Reddi at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 883 supra.]

Extract from the Press Communiqé of the Government, No. 15, *dated the 7th March* 1932.

It was alleged in the *Swarajya* of 22nd February 1932 that at Gudivada on 19th February 1932 women picketers were syringed with water by the Police at close quarters, the water being directed at their eyes, faces and ears. It is also alleged that charred husk was thrown on them. It is not true that water was aimed at the eyes or faces of the women or that charred husk was thrown at them.

In *Swarajya* of 23rd February 1932 it is alleged that at Gudivada on 21st February 1932 two women picketers were sprayed with water for about 20 minutes until they fell unconscious and were removed to the hospital by the Police. The allegation is untrue ; they fell down pretending to be exhausted but when taken to the hospital the Medical Officer said there was nothing wrong with them.

APPENDIX IX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1211 asked by Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 909 supra.]

Rules and Regulations relating to the admission of pupils to the Madras Government Medical Schools and their training for the diploma of licensed medical practitioner.

* * * *

33 (*c*) No candidate shall be declared to have passed any of the Board examinations who has been allotted by the Board less than one-third of the total marks in each subject. For this purpose each division of a subject shall be counted as a separate subject.

NOTE.—In assessing the marks to be allotted to each candidate, the Board may take into consideration his record in the medical school as attested by the Superintendent and the marks obtained by him in the class examinations.

(Amended to the L.M.P. Rules. Issued in G.O. No. 2432, P.H., dated 16th November 1928.)

APPENDIX X.

[Vide answer to question No. 1215 asked by Mr. G. Simhachalam Pantulu at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 911 supra.]

(i)

G.O. No. 1046, P.H., dated 18th April 1929.

The Government sanction the amalgamation of the clerical staff employed in the headquarters hospitals in all districts except Vizagapatam and Ramnad and the post of clerk attached to the Coimbatore Medical School with the clerical staff of the District Medical Officer's offices in the respective districts. The amalgamated staff will be attached to the offices of the District Medical Officers but will be responsible also for the clerical work of the headquarter hospitals and, in the case of the Coimbatore district, of the Medical school also.

2. The clerical staff of the institutions specified below will remain as separate units and will not be amalgamated with the staff of the District Medical Officers' offices:—

1. Headquarter Hospital, Vizagapatam.
2. Mental Hospital, Waltair.
3. Medical School, Tanjore.
4. Headquarter Hospital, Ramnad.
5. Women and Children Hospital, Calicut.
6. Mental Hospital, Calicut.
7. Women and Children Hospital, Mangalore.

[24th March 1932

3. Sanction is also accorded to the employment of one additional clerk in the District Medical Officer's office in each of the 15 districts specified below:—

1. North Arcot.
2. South Arcot.
3. Coimbatore.
4. Ganjam.
5. East Godavari.
6. Guntur.
7. Madura.
8. Malabar.
9. Nellore.
10. Ramnad.
11. Salem.
12. Tanjore.
13. Tinnevelly.
14. Trichinopoly.
15. Vizagapatam.

The pay of these clerks will be regulated in accordance with the orders in paragraph 4 below.

4. At present one clerk in the District Medical Officer's office, Tanjore, draws pay in the scale of Rs. 50—3—80 while the pay of all other clerks is Rs. 35—35—1½—50—1—60. The Government are now pleased to sanction a higher scale of pay of Rs. 60—4—80 for sixteen posts in lieu of the one post on Rs. 50—3—80 and fifteen posts on Rs. 35—35—1½—50—1—60. The posts in the higher scale will not be attached to particular districts but may be held by any clerk in any district. The pay of all other posts will be Rs. 35—35—1½—50—1—60.

5. For purposes of promotion and transfer the clerical staff of all the institutions affected by this order, including those mentioned in paragraph 2 above, will be included in one combined establishment list. The power to order the promotion and transfer of clerks included in this list will rest with the Surgeon-General, to whom the District Medical Officers and the Superintendents of the institutions concerned should submit annual confidential reports on the work, character, etc., of all the clerks working under them. Competent clerks borne on the amalgamated list will also be eligible for promotion to higher posts in the Surgeon-General's office.

6. The sanction accorded in this order has been registered as No. 193 of 1929–30. It will have effect from the 1st April 1929. From the same date the temporary posts of clerks sanctioned in G.O. No. 1862, P.H., dated 10th September 1928, for the Headquarter Hospitals at Madura, Tanjore and Calicut, will be abolished.

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Public Health)

S. RANGANATHAN,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.
" Accountant-General through Finance Department.
" Finance Department.

24th March 1932]

(ii)

G.O. Ms. No. 1283, P.H., dated 16th July 1931.

READ—the following:—

From the Surgeon-General No. 550-2 Hospls./31, dated 30th April 1931.

Order—Ms. No. 1283, P.H., dated 16th July 1931.

The Surgeon-General is informed that there is no objection to the clerical staff employed in hospitals at divisional centres being included in the combined establishment list of clerks referred to in paragraph 5 of G.O. No. 1046, P.H., dated 18th April 1929, for purposes of promotion and transfer, provided that the resulting increase in the number of lower grade posts on Rs. 35—60 is not made the basis of a demand for an increase in the number of posts on Rs. 60—80. The orders in G.O No. 1122, P.H., dated 22nd June 1931, regarding the transfer of clerks attached to the offices of District Medical Officers will also apply to these clerks.

* * * * *

(By order of the Government, Ministry of Local Self-Government)

M. C. B. KOMAN,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

To the Surgeon-General.
,, Accountant-General through Finance Department.
,, Finance Department.
,, Public Department.

APPENDIX XI.

[*Vide answer to question No.* 1223 *asked by* **Mr.** K. P. Raman Menon at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, *page* 919 *supra.*]

Press Communiqué of the Government of Madras, Public (*General*) *Department, dated Fort St. George, the 22nd February* 1932, *No.* 14.

The Government have received representations in regard to the action of the Subdivisional Magistrate, Tellicherry, Malabar district, in having ordered the removal of the thali of Mrs. Prabhu, together with her other jewels in realization of a fine imposed upon her in C.C. No. 23 of 1932 for a criminal offence. Representations have also been received in regard to certain remarks alleged to have been made by the Subdivisional Magistrate during the course of Mrs. Prabhu's trial.

On receiving these representations the Government directed an enquiry by the District Magistrate of Malabar and have now received his report.

The Subdivisional Magistrate, under a misapprehension that all the jewelry on the person of anyone sentenced to imprisonment and fine should be seized for the realization of the fine ordered the seizure of the thali belonging to Mrs. Prabhu along with other jewelry at the conclusion of her trial. Though the seizure of a thali is not expressly prohibited by the Code of Criminal Procedure or by the Criminal Rules of Practice, the Government consider that the action of the Subdivisional Magistrate was a serious error of judgment, which he has himself realized and for which he has expressed sincere regret. As soon as the matter came to the knowledge of the District Magistrate, he very properly ordered that the thali should be returned without awaiting the instructions of the Government. The Government are considering the advisability of bringing the Rules of Criminal Practice into line with the Code of Civil Procedure, the Police Standing Orders and the Jail Department Rules, so as to prevent all possibility of a recurrence of so regrettable a mistake.

As regards the remarks made by the Subdivisional Magistrate in the course of the trial, the Government are satisfied from a perusal of the statements of persons present in Court at the time which have been recorded by the District Magistrate, that no reference was made to the molestation of women while in the custody of the police. What happened was that the Subdivisional Magistrate addressed some observations at the conclusion of the trial to the accused persons stressing the dangers and foolishness of civil disobedience. The purport of these observations was that the alternative to the maintenance of law and order was a state of anarchy in which women would be in special danger of outrage and murder. These remarks were misunderstood to imply some kind of threat of molestation by the police which was not in any way the intention of the Magistrate, and was not the impression made on the minds of persons present in Court who have been examined by the District Magistrate.

G. T. H. BRACKEN,
Chief Secretary.

24th March 1932]

APPENDIX XII.

[Vide answer to question No. 1224 asked by Mr. K. A. Nachiyappa Gounder at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 922 supra.]

Statement I.

Convictions up to the middle of March 1932.

District.	Convictions. Men.	Convictions. Women.
Madras	29	10
Anantapur	17	..
Arcot, North	60	..
Arcot, South	26	3
Bellary	13	..
Chingleput	3	..
Chittoor	8	..
Coimbatore	49	6
Cuddapah	Nil.	Nil.
Ganjam	122	11
East Godavari	63	12
West Godavari	74	16
Guntur	120	27
South Kanara	16	6
Kistna	42	11
Kurnool	4	1
Madura	120	17
Malabar	158	17
Nellore	14	6
Nilgiris, The	Nil.	Nil.
Ramnad	50	..
Salem	90	1
Tanjore	102	..
Tinnevelly	43	2
Trichinopoly	19	3
Vizagapatam	30	4
	1,272	153
	1,425	

[24th March 1932

Statement II.

Number of civil disobedience prisoners convicted and placed in classes A, B and C up to the 15th February 1932.

District.	Number placed in class A.	B.	C.
Madras	9	9	10
Anantapur	..	2	14
Arcot, North	..	2	53
Arcot, South	..	2	21
Bellary	..	1	3
Chingleput	..	3	..
Chittoor	..	..	8
Coimbatore	2	11	41
Cuddapah	..	..	..
Ganjam	..	4	99
Godavari, East	1	7	52
Godavari, West	3	30	59
Guntur	..	8	133
Kanara, South	..	2	16
Kistna	4	7	50
Kurnool	..	..	6
Madura	1	7	50
Malabar	5	3	80
Nellore	1	..	14
Nilgiris, The	..	..	..
Ramnad	..	5	42
Salem	..	5	88
Tanjore	..	4	78
Tinnevelly	..	2	27
Trichinopoly	..	8	14
Vizagapatam	..	3	25
Total	26	125	983

APPENDIX XIII.

[Vide answer to question No. 1236 asked by Mr. A. B. Shetty at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 931 supra.]

Copy of letter alleging use of excessive force by the Police.

While fully recognizing the difficulty of regulating the exact force necessary to disperse assemblies acting contrary to the Ordinances promulgated by His Excellency the Viceroy, we the undersinged have

24th March 1932]

reason to believe that unnecessary force has been used by the Police on various occasions. We are also reliably informed that persons arrested for offences of picketing, etc., are beaten and otherwise inhumanly treated by the Police, while in the lock-up. We believe we shall be failing in our duty if we fail to bring to the notice of the Government this fact and also the fact that very great resentment is felt by the general public on account of the circumstances mentioned above.

1. K. P. Raman Menon, advocate, M.L.C.
2. Manjeri Rama Ayyar, advocate.
3. B. S. Tripurantaka Mudaliyar, Honorary Magistrate, merchant, Calicut.
4. N. S. Krishnan, Member, Malabar District Board.
5. Rao Bahadur Dr. T. M. K. Nedungadi.
6. Rao Sahib A. P. Chirukandan.
7. T. M. Kunhunni Nedungadi, vakil, Calicut.
8. V. S. Natarajan, Managing Director, Standard Tile Works, Calicut.
9. K. Nedungadi, Edavalam, landlord, Calicut.
10. A. Streicksen, Principal, Malabar Christian College, Calicut.
11. G. Sarvothama Rao, ex M.L.A., Headmaster, Ganpat High School.
12. E. Narayanan Nayar, advocate, Municipal Councillor, ex Chairman, Calicut Municipality.
13. P. M. Swaminatha Ayyar, advocate.
14. Khan Sahib K. Kunhamad Koya, merchant.
15. P. I. Ahamed Koya Hajee, landlord and merchant, Calicut.
16. S. E. Abu Backer, merchant and Municipal Councillor, Calicut.
17. P. I. Kunhamad Kutti, Municipal Councillor.
18. D. Srinivasa Rao, senior partner, D. V. Naick Brothers.
19. K. K. Subba Rao, merchant, ex Chairman, Cannanore.
20. Hajee Abdul Sattar, Municipal Councillor, Tellicherry.
21. C. K. P. Mammu Keyi, Chairman, Tellicherry Municipality.
22. Khan C. K. P. Mammed Keyi, landlord, Tellicherry.
23. K. A. Vasu Devan, Vice-Chairman, Tellicherry Municipality.
24. C. P. Savan Hajee, Municipal Councillor, Tellicherry.
25. K. K. Pocker, advocate, Calicut.
26. V. Krishna Menon, Secretary, Malabar Medical Association.
27. P. K. Narayana Nayar, President, Calicut Taluk Board.
28. G. Sankaran Nayar, B.A., B.L.

APPENDIX XIV.

[Vide answer to question No. 1237 asked by Mr. U. C. Subrahmanya Bhatt at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 931 supra.]

Copy of letter, dated the 27th February 1932, from the leading vakils of Kasaragod, South Kanara district.

We, the undersigned, hereby bring to your notice the following facts, which have been reported to us.

We learn that on 11th February 1932 at Kanhangad V. V. Chathukutty Nayar and Madhavan Nayar, Laxminarayana Poi, a document-writer, Vasudeva Shenoi, a landlord, and Achutha Kamath, a young boy, were beaten with lathis and sticks, although they took no part in the civil disobedience activities. The first two, it seems, were standing some distance away but after beating the picketers, they were pointed out and beaten severely with lathis and canes. Laxminarayana Poi met the Police in a hotel after the lathi charge on the volunteers and asked the hotel-keeper to serve them with something hot. For this he was called to the Police station and when returning from there was severely beaten. Vasudeva Shenoi who was standing in the courtyard of his shop was beaten for not removing his khadi cap. Achutha Kamath was sitting in a coffee hotel and was beaten for no reason.

At Pulicode one Narayana Adiyodi who was standing some distance away was beaten with lathis and canes until he fell unconscious and one Harishwaran Thirumumbu was chased some distance. Both these did not take part in picketing. Madhavan Nayar was beaten on the head also. This behaviour of the Police appears very strange in spite of the instructions which we learn have been given not to beat any that do not take part in law breaking and not to beat with lathis especially on the head.

We further learn that the persons who were beaten at Pulicode were not rendered any medical assistance by the Police and that they were left in the place where they had fallen. In such cases it is likely that due to want of care sepsis might develop and prove fatal which we are sure is not the intention of the Government.

We therefore hope that enquiries will be made and the recurrence of such things prevented.

* * * * *

APPENDIX XV.

[Vide answer to question No. 1279 asked by Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 948 supra.]

(i)

Memorial from the ryots of the zamindari of Udaiyarpalaiyam, Trichinopoly district, to His Excellency the Governor in Council, Madras, through the Private Secretary and the Collector of Trichinopoly.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

The undersigned ryots of the zamindari of Udaiyarpalaiyam, Trichinopoly district, most respectfully beg to approach Your Excellency with the following few lines for immediate redress of their grievances.

We beg to introduce ourselves that we are living in a benighted taluk of a benighted zamindari in a benighted Presidency. Excepting the very few, many of the ryots are illiterate and so also their beneficent landlord, the zamindar.

The Estate was granted to his predecessor under a conditional sanad under the Regulation of 1802 with a nominal peshkash of Rs. 600 or so, estimating the annual income of the zamindari at Rs. 27,000 and odd. Under the terms thereof, it is evident that the proprietor is entitled to collect the said rental alone from his ryots, distributing the amount towards the entire area of 65 villages. Now it is clear that the zamindari obtains an annual income of 3 lakhs of rupees which has been gradually increasing year after year for the last 20 or 30 years. Thus the ryots are not in a secure state because of the fact that their lands are not surveyed and that they are always at the mercy of the karnam for the rent to whom the proprietor also looks. It is possible for the karnam to do the entire mischief either to the ryots or to the proprietor and naturally less to the proprietor who has got the power of getting him suspended or dismissed for any alleged misbehaviour. The present classification of land and the cropwar rent add to the misery of the ryots.

Hence it is highly desirable that the entire zamindari is surveyed through the Government and a settlement and record of right is maintained. Of course the zamindar is telling all the officials that he is maintaining a survey party and that he is doing the survey. He has been saying so for a decade and still 7 or 8 villages are said to be surveyed within the period and if the progress is in such a slow rate, it will take generations to see the lands entirely surveyed. After all, the record of survey is not at all available to any ryot who owns lands and who is therefore made unable to verify the extent surveyed. The proprietor cannot count by his fingers to whom he supplied copies of his survey though there may be many applications for them. Of course, the Act I of 1908 gives the procedure for making the survey but no ryot will dare to apply for survey at the risk of incurring the displeasure of the potentate monarch. If there are enough of big landlords in his zamindari they may agitate the matter

but they are not themselves enough to satisfy the requirements of law. Even the action of the mighty British Government are closely watched by eminent men but here there is absolutely no self-sacrificing man to agitate the matter. On a comparison of the adjacent ryots of the ryotwari villages the zamindari ryots are taxed very heavily with impunity. We are prepared to bear the proportionate cost of the survey and settlement under the rules.

For all the rack-renting there is not a single pie spent on behalf of the ryots. There are no roads of the zamindar in the rural areas to call his and no irrigation facilities. These are the two important things in an estate.

There is no budget for the income and expenditure for his estate such that the ryots may be in a position to know that the zamindar is conducting the estate properly. He is entirely concerned with the collection of the rent, however much the ryots suffer and his dictionary does not contain the word "Remission." All such collections are spent on his own self-aggrandizement and on crow-catching the biggest officers by dinners and it is not known to the public what part of the rent of the estate is reserved for unforeseen events to help the poor ryots. These ryots may as well abandon the zamindari, thereby leaving the proprietor in sole occupation of his devastation provided the Government is able to show some means for their livelihood. It is as much the duty of the Government to look after the welfare of the zamin ryots and we have therefore ventured this petition.

We therefore most earnestly pray that Your Excellency may be graciously pleased

(*a*) to direct compulsory survey of the zamindari through Government and to make a settlement and record of rights ;

(*b*) to direct that the original rental of Rs. 27,000 and odd be distributed for all the villages so that the heavy burden of taxation is removed ; and

(*c*) to prepare a budget every year of the income and expenditure of the estate and to publish it in the District Gazette.

* * * * *

(ii)

G.O. Ms. No. 4148, *Law* (*General*), *dated* 11*th November* 1931.

The memorialists are informed that they may, if so advised, apply for survey, preparation of record of rights and settlement of rents under sections 164 and 168 of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908 (I of 1908). The Government are unable to comply with the other requests of the memorialists.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

V. N. VISWANATHA RAO,
Secretary to Government.

To K. Govindaswami Padayachi, Udaiyarpalaiyam, Trichinopoly district.
" R. Ramachandran, c/o M.R.Ry. K. T. Tatachariyar Avargal, Advocate, Ariyalur.
" the Board of Revenue (Land Revenue and Settlement).

APPENDIX XVI.

[Vide answer to question No. 1281 asked by B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur at the meeting of the Legislative Council held the 24th March 1932, page 949 supra.]

Departments.	Permanent vacancies.		Temporary vacancies.		Number of Muslim Upper Division clerks promoted as Superintendents.	Number of Muslim Lower Division clerks promoted as Upper Division clerks.	Percentage of Muslim representation as Superintendents.	Percentage of Muslim representation as Upper Division clerks.
	Superintendents.	Upper Division clerks.	Superintendents.	Upper Division clerks.				
Development	..	..	2	2	Nil.	Nil.	33 per cent.	Nil.
Revenue	1 (unfilled).	..	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Chief Secretariat	..	..	3	5	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Local Self-Government ..	..	..	6	9	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	5 per cent.
Public Works and Labour.	..	..	3	5	Nil.	Nil.	20 per cent.	Nil.
Law	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	5½ per cent.
Finance	..	..	7	16	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	6 ”

[24th March 1932

APPENDIX XVII.

[Vide answer to question No. 1283 asked by Capt. W. E. Winter at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 952 supra.]

1. *Building societies.*—The rate charged by Government to societies is 7½ per cent. The rates charged by societies to members vary from 7½ per cent to 8½ per cent.

2. *Loan and Sale societies.*—The rate of interest charged by Government to societies is 5½ per cent. These loans are not intended for disbursement to members.

3. *Irrigation societies.*—The rate charged by Government was 6½ per cent. So far only one society got a loan under this head, and its lending rate was 6¾ per cent.

4. *Milk Supply Union.*—The rate charged by Government was 5½ per cent. Only one loan was given to the Union for a specific purpose of purchasing motor lorries and accessories and not for disbursement to members.

5. *Land mortgage banks.*—The rate now charged by Government is 7½ per cent. The primary land mortgage banks levy 8 to 9 per cent on loans to members. Interest at 6 per cent is charged on the Government cash credit to the Central Land Mortgage Bank.

6. *Loans to depressed class societies.*—The following societies come under this description:—

(1) Co-operative societies for acquisition of sites.

(2) Kallar societies.

(3) Co-operative societies for Koravars.

(4) Co-operative societies for purchase of cattle, ploughs, etc.

(5) Toda society—The loans granted to this society are free of interest.

The rate of interest charged in respect of items (1) to (4) is 7½ per cent.

7. *Land reclamation societies.*—Before the year 1931–32, the rate of interest charged on loans granted by Government was 4 per cent per annum for the first five years and 6 per cent thereafter. With effect from 1931–32, interest on these loans is charged at 7½ per cent. There is no information as to the rate of interest charged by these societies to their members.

APPENDIX XVIII.

[*Vide* answer to question No. 1289 asked by Sriman M. G. Patnaik Mahasayo at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 956 *supra*.]

(i)

G.O. No. 2024, Judicial, dated 15th December 1890.

In Government Order, dated 8th March 1890, No. 443, His Excellency the Governor in Council resolved, in order to meet the wants of the Oriya-speaking population of Ganjam, to declare Oriya a court language in certain parts of the district and requested the Honourable the Judges of the High Court and the District Magistrate of Ganjam to report their opinion on the subject. From the replies received, it is clear that the original idea of dividing the district into two portions, in one of which Oriya should be the court language, whilst Telugu held this position in the other, is impracticable and that it is necessary to declare that in every court both Oriya and Telugu shall be regarded as the language of the court. Accordingly, under section 556 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, and section 645 of the Code of the Civil Procedure, His Excellency the Governor in Council is pleased to declare that both Telugu and Oriya shall be regarded as the language of the court in every Criminal and Civil Court within the district of Ganjam.

2. The Honourable the Judges further suggest that 75 per cent of clerical establishment in the Aska District Munsif's Court, 50 per cent of that in the courts at Berhampur and Sompet, and 25 per cent of that in the Chicacole Court, should consist of persons acquainted with Oriya. Some such arrangement as this will be necessary in the offices under the control of the District Magistrate, and the necessary distribution of establishment should accordingly be made. In future, application should never be made for grant of magisterial powers to persons who are not acquainted with both languages.

(True extract)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the hon. the Chief Justice with C.L.
,, Collector and District Magistrate, Ganjam.
,, Revenue Department.
,, Accountant-General.

(ii)

G.O. Ms. No. 1161, Judicial, dated 27th June 1907.

M.R.Ry. H. H. Panda will be informed that the Government regret that they cannot see their way to introduce any system of special nomination. Steps will however be taken to employ educated Oriyas as much as possible in the higher posts in the Oriya-speaking parts of the district if qualified men can be found. If Telugus or others have to be employed preference will be given to those who have acquired a knowledge of Oriya.

[24th March 1932

2. A copy of these proceedings will be forwarded to the Collector and Agent to the Governor, Ganjam, who will be requested to give effect to the orders therein as far as possible.

(True extract)

(Signed) ———,
Chief Secretary.

To M.R.Ry. H. H. Panda, Secretary, Oriya Samaji, Aska, Ganjam (paragraph 1 only).
,, the Collector and Agent to the Government, Ganjam, with enclosures.

(iii)

G.O. No. 456, Judicial, dated 5th March 1913.

In supersession of all previous orders on the subject the Governor in Council is pleased to declare that with effect from 1st January 1914, Oriya shall be recognized as the sole language of the District Munsif's Court at Aska and the Revenue and Magisterial Courts in the Goomsur divison of the Ganjam district.

2. The following notifications will be published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*:—

NOTIFICATIONS.

I

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 137 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, the Governor in Council is pleased to declare that, with effect from 1st January 1914, Oriya shall be the sole court language of the District Munsif's Court of Aska in the Ganjam district.

II

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 558 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, the Governor in Council is pleased to declare that, with effect from 1st January 1914, Oriya shall be the sole court language of every criminal court in the Goomsur division of the Ganjam district.

(True extract)

A. G. CARDEW,
Acting Chief Secretary.

(iv)

G.O. No. 407, Revenue, dated 3rd March 1922.

Miscellaneous

The appended notification fixing court languages for civil and criminal courts in the Agency division will be published in the Fort St. George and the Agency District Gazettes.

2. The court language for a revenue court will be the same as that for the civil or criminal court having the same jurisdiction.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

E. W. LEGH,
Acting Secretary to Government.

24th March 1932]

APPENDIX.

NOTIFICATION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 (*b*) of the Scheduled Districts Act, 1874, and section 558 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, the Governor in Council is pleased to declare that with effect from 1st April 1922 the court languages in the civil and criminal courts in the Agency division shall be as shown below:—

Description of court.	Court languages.
1. Court of the Agency Commissioner.	Oriya and Telugu.
2. Court of the Judicial Assistant to the Commissioner.	Do.
Court of the Assistant Commissioner—	
3. Khond Agency.	Oriya.
4. Savara Agency.	Telugu and Oriya.
5. Ghats Agency.	Do.
6. Oriya Agency.	Do.
7. Koya Agency.	Telugu.
8. Rampa Agency.	Do.
Civil and criminal courts in—	
9. Balliguda taluk.	Oriya.
10. Goomsur, Udayagiri taluk.	Do.
11. Ramagiri, Udayagiri taluk.	Do.
12. Gunupur taluk.	Telugu and Oriya.
13. Raigada taluk.	Do.
14. Bissamcuttak taluk.	Do.
15. Padwa taluk.	Do.
16. Pottangi taluk.	Do.
17. Jeypore taluk.	Oriya.
18. Koraput taluk.	Do.
19. Malkangiri taluk.	Telugu and Oriya.
20. Nowrangapur taluk.	Oriya.
21. Bhadrachalam taluk.	Do.
22. Nugur taluk.	Do.
23. Polavaram taluk.	Do.
24. Yellavaram taluk.	Do.
25. Chodavaram taluk.	Do.
26. Gudem taluk.	Do.

(v)

G.O. No. 658, Public, dated 15th August 1922.

* * * * *

5. Further, in pursuance of the desire, which has been repeatedly expressed in the Legislative Council and with which the Government have every sympathy, that the public offices in language areas should be manned as far as possible, by persons belonging to those language areas, all heads of offices in Telugu districts and in Oriya tracts will

be instructed to keep a record of all persons not belonging by origin to those districts or tracts, respectively, and to take steps so far as possible to reduce the proportion whenever opportunity offers. For the purpose of this order, the Telugu districts and the Oriya tracts will be as defined in Appeudix II.

* * * * *

(By order of the Governor in Council)

R. A. GRAHAM,
Chief Secretary.

APPENDIX II.

Telugu districts.	Oriya tracts.
	Ganjam district—
Ganjam.	Goomsur taluk.
Vizagapatam.	Surada taluk.
Godavari.	Aska taluk.
Kistna.	Kudala taluk.
Guntur.	Chatrapur taluk.
Nellore.	
Chittoor.	
	Agency division—
Cuddapah.	Nowrangpur taluk.
Kurnool.	Jeypore taluk.
Bellary.	Koraput taluk.
Anantapur.	

APPENDIX XIX.

[Vide answer to question No. 1294 asked by Mr. V. M. Ramaswami Mudaliyar at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 24th March 1932, page 960 supra.]

Rules and regulations relating to the admission of pupils to the Madras Government Medical Schools and their training for the diploma of Licensed Medical Practitioner.

* * * * *

33 (*b*) No student who has not passed all the class examinations shall be permitted, except with the sanction of the President, to sit for the Board Examination at the end of the year. Such permission shall be accorded or refused upon a scrutiny of the reports of the Superintendent, Professors and Lecturers upon the work of the student during the year and of the marks obtained by him in the class examinations.

* * * * *

Appendix XX.

[Vide Item VIII—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 1000 supra.]

G.O. No. 143, Finance, dated 18th March 1932.

Read the following papers:—

I

G.O. No. 255, *Finance, dated* 10*th April* 1931.

Abstract.—Retrenchment—Functions of the Finance Committee and Retrenchment Secretary defined.

II

Letter from G. R. F. Tottenham, Esq., c.i.e., I.C.S., Retrenchment Secretary, to the Secretary to Government, Finance Department, dated 17th March 1932, No. 2624 R.S.-1.

I am directed by the Retrenchment Committee appointed in G.O. No. 255, Finance, dated 10th April 1931, to submit herewith their report which was duly signed to-day by the members of the Committee.

Order—No. 143, *Finance, dated* 18*th March* 1932.

In pursuance of the undertaking given by the Hon'ble the Finance Member in the Legislative Council on 17th March 1931, the Finance Committee were invited in G.O. No. 255, Finance, dated 10th April 1931, to undertake the additional duties of a Retrenchment Committee. The Committee's recommendations have been forwared to Government as they were made. Action has already been taken on most of them, but others are still under consideration. The Report of the Committee is now placed on the table of the Legislative Council for information of the Members and without prejudice to such further action as the Government may decide to take on the outstanding recommendations.

2. The Government take this opportunity to place on record their appreciation of the manner in which the Members and the Secretary of the Committee have carried out the duties laid upon them. The Committee have addressed themselves to their difficult and laborious task with zeal and thoroughness and their recommendations have already proved, and will continue to prove, of the greatest assistance to Government in carrying out the unpleasant, but unfortunately necessary, duty of retrenchment.

(By order of the Governor in Council)

H. M. Hood,
Secretary to Government.

To the Secretary, *Legislative Council (with copies* for distribution to the Members of the Council).
" Members of the Retrenchment Committee.
" Departments of the Secretariat.

[24th March 1932

Appendix XXI.

[Vide Item VIII—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 1000 supra.]

REPLIES OF THE MADRAS FRANCHISE COMMITTEE TO THE FURTHER QUESTIONS OF THE INDIAN FRANCHISE COMMITTEE.

Q. 1.—The Committee decided by a majority to adhere to its original proposals with a rider that if possible the Municipal and Local Boards Acts may be so amended as to reduce the possibilities of manipulation of vehicle and animal taxes for vote-creating purposes or the election rules may be so framed as to give the registration officer power to refuse registration where it is proved there has been such manipulation. The Committee recognize that manipulation is possible but considers that the probabilities of such manipulation in large constituencies can be exaggerated and would point out that in the maximum scales laid down for municipal taxation, the lowest profession tax, viz., 8 annas for half-year, is the same as the lowest animal tax while the lowest vehicle tax, namely, that on a bicycle, is Rs. 2 per half-year. The minimum income on which profession tax can be levied is Rs. 150 in the half-year. Profession tax, especially since it is merely a question of assessment and not of payment, could be equally manipulated; but profession tax must be retained as a property qualification since it is our one method of bringing on to the roll the man with a small professional income or substantial wages, who is not a house-tax assessee, nor connected with land in some form of proprietorship or as a lessee. It may be mentioned that in the old Acts payment of tax was the qualification and this was altered to " assessment to " in the amending Bills to prevent tax-payers being excluded from the electoral rolls of the municipality or taluk boards because the tax was not collected from them before the end of the year, sometimes deliberately, sometimes owing to the dilatory methods of local bodies. So far as is known there has been very little, if any, manipulation except in the case of written leases for land in view of the preparation of the present local boards and municipal rolls, and the temptation to do so will be less with large constituencies of 25,000 to 40,000 voters than it was in small municipal wards of perhaps 200 voters each. The Committee desire again to emphasize the administrative convenience of adopting a ready-made roll to which only additions on application have to be made on account of the literacy qualification.

The taxes that will qualify under the Committee's proposals, are—

Municipal areas.

(1) Income tax.
(2) Motor vehicles tax.
(3) Property tax.
(4) Profession tax.
(5) Vehicle and animal taxes.
(6) Tax on carts.

Rural areas.

(1) Income-tax.
(2) Motor vehicles tax.
(3) House-tax in panchayat villages.
(4) Profession tax.
(5) Land-cess.
(6) Direct panchayat taxes recommended to and sanctioned by the Local Government as convenient and suitable to the village. Vehicle and animal taxes are included in these.

In both municipal and rural areas, licence fees such as those for carrying on dangerous and objectionable trades, market stalls, temporary stalls, sunshades and the like do not confer the franchise.

In both municipal and rural areas, registration as pattadar or landholder, tenant or inamdar and holding land by written lease and military service qualify.

Q. 2.—The Committee approves of the adoption of the coloured box system with blank but numbered ballot cards or papers for all voters, but considers that there should be provision for identification in case of dispute by the village officers. Identification cards with the voter's number on the roll may be given to the voters either by candidates or their agents or, failing them, by a person specially deputed for the purpose by the presiding officer. One of the members of the Committee suggests that if possible one colour should be allotted to all candidates of a particular party. The Committee consider it both feasible and advisable to have the ballot papers issued by polling clerks sitting in twos and under the general supervision of the presiding or assistant presiding officer. One of the two should always be a Government servant. The Committee as a whole are of opinion that allowing for a 60 per cent to 75 per cent poll, a group of 1,000 electors can be polled per day by each polling unit, by polling unit being understood a presiding or assistant presiding officer and at least two polling clerks. Some of the members consider that if the Ceylon system is adopted a single presiding officer can control the polling of two units, provided he has sufficient polling clerks. On the other hand, some members point out that polling stations should not cover a radius of more than three miles and this will limit the possibilities of large polling stations in rural areas. As regards polling hours those at present in force in this Province, viz., 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. with an interval of one hour for rest seem suitable.

The Committee has had access to the figures prepared for Government of the personnel available and finds that if presiding officers may be drawn from non-gazetted ranks on Rs. 100 a month and upwards as well as from gazetted officers, the Government officers, gazetted local board officers and civil pensioners available number about 5,000. There will be no difficulty about polling clerks. To supplement these there is an indeterminable number of non-officials if required. The Committee does not consider that the proportion of women voters will

affect the speed of polling in this Province, and on the basis of 750 voters per presiding or assistant presiding officer, finds that for one day's poll the maximum poll administratively possible without using non-officials is 3,750,000, and with a two days' poll 7,500,000. If the opinion referred to above that the capacity of a presiding officer is more than 1,000 electors is correct, these figures can be substantially raised. Allowing for a 75 per cent poll which at any rate for the first two elections is possibly a high estimate, the total electorate under each possibility is (*a*) 5,000,000 and (*b*) 10,000,000. (*a*) is 10·7 per cent of the total and 21·4 of the adult population. (*b*) is 21·4 per cent of the total population and 42·9 of the adult population. (*a*) is somewhat less than the electorate already proposed by the Committee and if polling is all to be on one day it may be necessary to employ non-officials as *presiding officers. Polling on more than two days is practicable* but undesirable on administrative grounds as well as on the general ground that it is desirable that an election should be finished expeditiously in order that the excitement inevitably engendered by an election should be ended as soon as possible. The Committee prefers a one day poll, but if the electorate should be further extended it is almost certain a two days' poll will be required. The polling in any constituency ought preferably to be on one day, but with our system of separate electorates for certain communities, once the poll extends beyond one day, the polling in such constituencies will necessarily extend over more than one day. The Committee also does not like the idea of portions of a district being polled on different days, and it is doubtful whether it would be administratively convenient to transfer *polling staff from one district to another.*

Q. 3.—The information that will be furnished by the Government in reply to this question has been communicated to the Committee. It is of opinion that members of municipalities and local boards as well as honorary magistrates, though they are public servants in respect of their duties as members of the councils or boards or as magistrates cannot be considered as necessarily suitable for employment on polling duties, merely in virtue of their positions. They are perhaps more liable than other non-officials to have political interests. The Committee prefers that the District Collector should for the polling staff in the district draw first on all available Government officers, then on *gazetted officers of local fund services, then on civil pensioners and* lastly on non-officials. A system somewhat similar to that employed in selecting assessors and special jurors may be adopted and the list of non-officials selected may be published each year to allow of objections. No non-official should be employed against his will. The Committee is of opinion that in this Province non-gazetted officers on Rs. 100 and over may be employed as presiding or assistant presiding officers. Where other than Government officials are employed as *polling clerks one of each pair should always be a Government servant.*

Separate compartments or booths can be provided for female voters where necessary. In rural tracts as a general rule special provision is

24th March 1932]

not necessary. It is only for Muslim women, and possibly for urban areas where the poll of women electors may be fairly heavy that any special arrangements are really necessary.

Q. 4 & 5.—The majority of the Committee consider that if a system of one day's polling is retained, the maximum possible electorate is that already proposed, and admits of no extension. All agree that if a system of two days' polling is adopted an extension on the following lines is possible, and a substantial number of members consider that this extension should be made irrespective of whether one or two days' polling is required:—

(1) The literacy qualification for men may be the same as that already suggested for women. It is estimated that this at present will make possible an addition of 1·4 millions not otherwise qualified to the rolls, and will provide for a wider representation of all categories of the population and a natural and gradual extension of the electorate. Persons claiming to be so qualified will have to apply to the registration officer.

(2) Tenants by written lease or demise of estate ryots should have the franchise on the same terms as tenants by written lease of ryotwari pattadars and inamdars. The provision in the Local Boards Act was originally included to enfranchise a special class of sub-tenants on the Malabar coast, and it seems to have been an omission in drafting that provision was not also made for tenants of estate ryots also. This proposal is put forward subject to the recommendation already made that a more precise definition of these lease-holders is necessary to prevent creation of bogus leases and votes. Only a very rough estimate is possible of the probable addition to the electorate on this account. Putting it at one-third of the ryotwari lessees so far on the rolls the number would be 100,000. The total electorate would then be in the neighbourhood of seven millions and short of complete adult suffrage for males which the Committee is not in favour of and which would make the electorate more than can be administratively managed without undue prolongation of the poll, is unable to suggest any other suitable qualifications for the general franchise. In the Committee's first proposals the women voters were estimated as very close to one million. These two proposals will practically not affect them and in a seven million electorate they would be approximately one-seventh of the electorate. The proportion of women electors to the adult female population will be in the neighbourhood of 9 per cent.

Q. 6.—The Committee unanimously remains of the opinion that (*a*) the universal indirect system of adult suffrage and (*b*) a combination of direct voting and a group system is undesirable for this Province.

Q. 7.—The number of males left without representation of any kind on the Committee's proposals was 4,537,305 as exhibited in the note prepared by Mr. Rutherford for the Franchise Committee. If the literacy qualification for men is made the same as for women and tenants of estate ryots on written leases are enfranchised there will be an increase of 1½ million voters mostly males.

The figures will then be—

Total adult males	11,932,000
Total male electors	5,932,000
Total males without the vote ...	6,000,000

Probable number of Hindu joint family members who will have representation through the head of the family.

$$5{,}932{,}000 \times \frac{41}{46} \times \frac{3}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = 3{,}748{,}000.$$

6,000,000 voteless males.
3,748,000 joint family members.
2,252,000 completely unrepresented adult males.

Of these about 1,161,750 will be Adi-Dravidas. It is anticipated that the lowering of the educational qualification will very substantially increase the number of Muhammadan electors. Most Christians, it is believed, will be literate. In this Province Muhammadans and Indian Christians very largely continue as members of the family enjoying the family property in common and having landed property registered in the name of one only. The figures of 3,748,000 for joint family members may therefore have to be increased to very nearly 4,449,000 which would leave 1,551,000 unrepresented adult males of whom 1,161,750 will be Adi-Dravidas and a balance of 389,250 illiterates, all other castes and communities, comprised in the following categories:—

In municipalities—

(*a*) those who own houses of less than Rs. 12 annual value and whose income is less than Rs. 300 a year, and pay no vehicle or animal tax,

(*b*) similar persons living in rented houses.

In rural areas—

(*a*) Cultivators who cultivate the land of others on oral leases or agreements and have no land in their own names and pay no panchayat tax.

(*b*) Landless persons and labourers in non-panchayat villages, and in panchayat villages which do not levy house-tax or profession tax.

(*c*) All landless persons in panchayat villages which do levy house-tax and profession tax but whose houses are less than Rs. 240 capital value, or whose incomes are below Rs. 300 a year.

Q. 8.—The Committee considers that the same electoral system should be applied to town and country. It has considered the possibility of direct adult suffrage in the towns and sees no reason why it should be adopted in urban areas when not adopted in the country. Such a system would give undue weightage to the town populations in the separate communal electorates and also in the general non-Muhammadan electorates if urban and rural areas are included in the same constituency.

24th March 1932]

Q. 9.—A substantial majority of the Committee are against any weightage to the urban areas and consider they should have representation proportionate to their population. The Committee is unanimous in agreeing that municipalities (not necessarily all) which are the urban areas for this Province may be grouped into separate constituencies for non-Muhammadan seats, due regard being had to the urban character of their population, number of voters and district conditions.

Q. 10.—The great majority of the Committee are in favour of the method originally suggested by it, and prefer it to that suggested by the Madras Government. Candidature to the women's constituencies should be open to women on any electoral roll in the Province.

Q. 11.—The Committee agree that women who are the guardians of minors possessing a property qualification may be enrolled as electors on application.

Q. 12.—The answer to this question is left to Government. The Committee's proposal to reduce the literacy qualification for men may bring a few more on the rolls and with the spread of elementary education among the depressed classes provides the easiest method for their proportional voting strength rising to that of other communities. It is understood that further information gathered makes the probable number of Adi-Dravida electors about 3¼ lakhs on the Committee's original franchise proposals.

Q. 13.—The Committee in its preliminary discussions decided in favour of Trade Unions being the electorate for special interest labour seats, but found the objections involved so great that it eventually adopted the proposal for special constituencies of factory workers as a means of giving labour as a special interest a voice in the legislature. It fully recognizes that if employers' organizations are given special representation, labour organizations can claim the same. Trade Unions, however, in this Province are not well organized and there are also a number of unions organized for people who can hardly be termed industrial workers. The majority of the Committee on further consideration recommends that the special labour constituencies should be formed from all in the selected areas who are usually employed as factory workers, mechanical transport workers and dockyard or port workers, and who are not employed on clerical duties or the like, and who have been members of a permanent registered union for a period of one year and have paid their union subscription. Recognizing that it may be difficult for employed workers to get away for sessions of the Council without losing their employment the Committee adheres to its former opinion that persons on any electoral roll for the Legislative Council shall be eligible as candidates for these labour constituencies. The Committee realize that at first these constituencies may have a comparatively small number of electors. On these proposals the rate of wage of the elector does not matter. Some members of the Committee consider that this proposal would lead to manipulation and would seriously restrict the franchise among labourers and therefore would prefer the original proposals of the Committee.

Q. 14.—The Committee already fully considered whether wage could be made a property qualification for the vote in general con stituencies, and came to the conclusion that the criterion or proof mus be taxation. There is nothing to prevent the legislature so amendin the Acts as to reduce the half-yearly taxable income below the presen minimum of Rs. 150. The Committee see no reason to revise thei previous conclusion.

Q. 15.—The answer to this question is left to Government.

Q. 16.—The Committee previously expressed its opinion against Second Chamber. This was a majority decision and by a majorit decision opinion is now in favour of a Second Chamber. It seems bu right to state that certain members who previously voted against Second Chamber were absent from the meeting at which the reply to b given to this question was discussed. The Committee, it may be sai are more or less evenly divided on the question. If there is to b Second Chamber it was agreed that the strength should be about one fourth of that of the Lower House. A majority are in favour of a pro portion of nominated members, but there was no agreement as to th proportion. Some members are in favour of one-eighth, others of one fourth, and one only—an official member—in favour of two-fifths. Fo the elected portion it was agreed that the electorate should correspon to that proposed for the Upper Chamber of the Federal Legislature A substantial majority of the Committee are against communal repre sentation and representation of special interests in the Provincial Secon Chamber.

Q. 17.—A large majority of the Committee are against any modifica tion of their franchise proposals or the proposals for representation o special interests in the Lower House, merely because of the existence o a Second Chamber.

Q. 18.—The Committee adheres to its original views on this matter

Q. 19.—The Committee remains of the same opinion as before an believes that a reduction of the franchise to Rs. 10 for urban qualifica tions and Rs. 25 for rural land qualifications will approximately doubl the electorate.

Q. 20.—On reconsideration the Committee is of opinion that ther is no need to secure special representation for Commerce in the Federa Lower House, but if representation is secured for Indian Commerce then it should also be secured for European Commerce.

Q. 21.—With regard to seats for communities in the Federa Legislature, without knowing the number of seats allotted the Com mittee find it difficult to frame more detailed proposals than that elec tion to them should be from territorial constituencies. Some members however, consider that, in the case of depressed classes, such constitu encies, where the number of voters is very large, would be difficult t work satisfactorily. For landholders, a territorial constituency wit an electorate of those on the electoral rolls for the landholders consti tuencies of the Madras Legislative Council with postal voting. 1

hould be mentioned here that the Committee decided that the land-.olders franchise qualification should be reduced to Rs. 1,000. For abour the same constituency for the Assembly as is proposed in the Committee's revised reply for the Legislative Council. For women, the nembers of the Legislative Council should form the constituency though he candidate herself need not be a member of that body. If Indian Commerce is to be represented in the Federal Lower Chamber the existing electorate for the Assembly should remain. If European Commerce is to be represented, the constituency should be the proposed electoral roll for European Trade and Commerce for the Legislative Council.

Q. 22.—(*a*) This Committee in framing its proposals assumed single-member constituencies, but did not expressly state this in its original nemorandum. As there was a discussion about the relative advantages and disadvantages of the multiple-member and the single-member constituencies the Committee takes this opportunity of stating that it decidedly prefers single-member constituencies and is against multiple-member constituencies.

(*b*) Some of the members of the Committee among whom is included the depressed class member and who was responsible for moving for reconsideration of the original recommendation, think that it is undesirable to give the depressed classes a vote in the general electorate in addition to their separate electorates. The grounds given are that it may be made an excuse for giving them less than they consider is there due representation in the Legislatures through separate electorates and also that the general electorate candidates may interfere with the free choice of the depressed class communal candidates.

Q. 23.—This is for Government.

FORT ST. GEORGE,
15th March 1932.

S. MUTHIAH,
Chairman.

APPENDIX XXII.

[Vide Item VIII—Papers placed on the Table of the House—page 1,000 supra].

tter from T. G. RUTHERFORD, Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S., Additional Secretary to the Government of Madras, Public (Franchise) Department, to the Secretary, Indian Franchise Committee, Camp India, dated Fort St. George, the 20th March 1932, No. 449-P.

I am directed to forward to you a copy of the Madras Provincial mmittee's replies to the further questionnaire issued by the Indian anchise Committee together with the views of the Government of adras. It should be stated that this questionnaire and the recommendations of the Provincial Committee have as before been considered by is Excellency the Governor and his Executive Council and Ministers ting together and the views expressed are those of the Government a whole.

[24th March 1932

Q. 1.—The Government, after considering the points raised in discussion with the Franchise Committee and the reply of the Provincial Committee to this question, have come to the conclusion that some modification of their original proposals is desirable and that possibly too much stress can be laid on the administrative convenience of adopting the ready-made rolls of the municipalities and local boards. On further consideration the majority of the Government also feel that, as a check on manipulation in regard to municipal and local board taxation, payment of the tax rather than mere assessment should create the franchise qualification. The original proposals though enfranchising persons from all classes and layers of the population probably left out a considerable number of partially educated people living in rural areas who were not subject to house-tax or profession tax because they did not reside in a panchayat village which levied such taxes or because their income was below Rs. 25 a month and had no direct connexion with the land. They also left out a number of people who cultivate land from year to year on oral agreements on the crop-sharing system which is common in parts of this Presidency, many of them quite substantial cultivators. Except in Madras City they left out house-holders living as sole tenants in rented houses who were not subject to profession tax. In devising the present proposals an attempt has been made to include as far as possible all people with a substantial interest in the land and all house-holders of any substance in the urban areas, while the reduction of the independent literacy qualification for men to the same as for women, that is ability to read and write some language, besides bringing in all persons not otherwise qualified who may be presumed to be fit to exercise the vote, provides a method of steady expansion of the electorate amongst all classes of the people. The following in detail are the qualifications for the franchise which the Government now recommend for general electorates:—

(1) Assessment to income-tax; or

(2) Payment of tax under the Madras Motor Vehicles Taxation Act for the whole official year immediately before the electoral roll is prepared or revised; or

(3) Being a registered landholder, inamdar, ryotwari pattadar, or occupancy ryot under the Madras Estates Land Act; or

(4) Assessment to ground-rent payable to Government; or

(5) Payment of property tax for the two half-years immediately prior to the preparation or revision of the roll under the Madras City Act or the Madras District Municipalities Act or the Madras Local Boards Act; or

(6) Payment of profession tax for the two half-years immediately prior to the preparation or revision of the roll under the Madras City Act or the Madras District Municipalities Act or the Madras Local Boards Act; or

(7) Being, during the whole of the previous fasli, a kanamdar or kuzhikanamdar or the holder of a kudiiruppu or a verumpattadar having fixity of tenure, each of these terms bearing the meaning defined in the Malabar Tenancy Act, 1929; or

24th March 1932]

(8) Being for the whole of the fasli immediately preceding the preparation or revision of the electoral roll a mortgagee with possession, lessee or tenant of immovable property (other than a house property) of an annual value of Rs. 100 in Madras City or a municipality and Rs. 50 elsewhere in the Presidency; or

(9) Being a guardian of a minor possessing one of the above property qualifications; or

(10) Occupying during the whole of the previous year as sole tenant house property on which property tax or house tax has been duly paid for the year; or

(11) Being a retired or pensioned officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier of His Majesty's armed forces; or

(12) Being able to read and write in any language; or

(13) Being a registered joint landholder, inamdar, pattadar, or occupancy ryot entitled to an additional vote on an application signed by a majority of the registered joint holders, votes being allowed to joint holders on the following scale:—

For landholders and holders of whole inam villages of Rs. 1,000 and above annual rental—one vote for every complete Rs. 500 of annual rental, and

for joint holders of minor inams, ryotwari pattas and estate pattas of Rs. 100 and over—one vote for every complete Rs. 50 of assessment, rent or kist.

The additional votes will only be given to persons included amongst the registered joint holders and the registration should have been made not later than the fasli previous to the one in which the rolls are under preparation or revision. Persons qualified under items (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) will be entered on the preliminary rolls by the Registration Officers from the accounts of the Government and the estate holders and from the municipal registers. Those qualified under items (7) to (13) will only be entered on the list on application to the officer preparing the electoral roll. Applications under items (7), (8), (9), (12) and (13) will be made through village officers and tahsildars, when the village officers will add a certificate that they have satisfied themselves that the statements in the application are correct to the best of their knowledge and belief. With regard to applicants under item (12) it is proposed that the applicant should in the presence of the village officer sign an application which will be in a printed form showing place of education and highest standard attained, form or class in which applicant has been educated and containing a certificate to be signed by the village officers to the effect that the applicant signed in their presence without assistance and that they have satisfied themselves that the applicant can read and write the language specified. In the case of items (1), (4), (5) and (6) the assessment should have been made in and for the year, official or fasli as the case may be, immediately preceding the preparation or revision of the electoral roll. Payments under (5) and (6) need not necessarily have been made within the year but should

have been made before the date fixed for the completion of the fina electoral roll. This means that late payers omitted from the preliminar roll can apply to be included in the final roll.

It is believed that these qualifications will not allow much scope fo manipulation. It takes time and trouble to get a transfer of patta o subdivision of patta or the addition of names to a joint patta and thes transactions have to be carried out by the revenue officers in the ordinar course of their duties. The insistence on payment as opposed to mer assessment to taxes of local authorities is a further safeguard, while i regard to leases, oral or written the comparatively high value adopte will bring in only substantial under-tenants the fact of whose tenanc will be common knowledge in the village and the village officers wh have to certify to the correctness of the claim are liable to departmenta discipline and even prosecution if they sign false certificates.

The taxes or payments to Government or local authorities which wil qualify for the franchise in general electorates under the system now proposed are as follows:—

In rural areas—
(1) Income-tax.
(2) Motor vehicles tax.
(3) House tax.
(4) Profession tax.
(5) Ground-rent.
(6) Land revenue.

Madras City and Municipalities—
(1) Income-tax.
(2) Motor vehicles tax.
(3) Property tax.
(4) Profession or companies tax.
(5) Ground-rent.
(6) Land revenue.

Ground-rent is levied on house-sites assigned by Government in recent years in urban areas and also in rural areas when land is acquired by local bodies for the purpose of providing house-sites. No payment is made to Government for the occupation of house-sites in the nattam (or village-sites) of villages or of long standing in urban areas; land revenue is levied on all occupied agricultural land and also, but rarely, on house-sites which previously have been occupied agricultural land.

Q. 2.—The Government agree with the Provincial Committee in thinking that the percentage of women voters will not affect the speed of polling in this Province. They agree to the adoption of the system of coloured boxes and the issue of ballot papers by polling clerks sitting in pairs under the general supervisions of the Presiding Officer and his assistants, but consider that at least one of each pair of clerks should be in the permanent service of the Government. They consider, moreover, that it is desirable to have provision for the identification of voters in cases of dispute. In the separate constituencies for Muhammadans, Indian Christians and depressed classes, each of which may extend over more than one district, it is doubtful whether candidates will always be able to have agents at every polling station. Government prefer to have the poll completed in one day, even if it means employing non-officials as Presiding or assistant Presiding Officers. They consider that the polling hours may remain as at present, namely from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. with one hour's interval for rest and refreshment. Assuming 750 as

the number of actual voters with whom a Presiding Officer can deal in a day, the number of voters that can be polled in one day without recourse to non-official assistance is 3,750,000 and in two days, 7,500 000. They are inclined however, to think that in polling stations where the number of voters is likely to be more than 750, the Presiding Officer, provided he has an adequate number of polling clerks, could control the voting of 1,000 persons and would put the number of voters that can be polled in one day in this Province using the new system with possibly some recourse to non-officials as assistant Presiding Officers under Gazetted officers of Government as Presiding officers at something like five millions. So far in this Province gazetted officers, of whom there are 2,000 have not been much used for polling duties. The tendency has been to have a number of small polling areas and small polling stations. With the large increase in the electorate now agreed, to Government realize that it may be necessary in thickly populated areas to concentrate the polling in order to make the most effective use of the staff available. If 750 voters per day is the capacity of the Presiding or assistant Presiding Officer and a 75 per cent poll of the electorate is assumed, the total electorate on a one day poll using only officials will be (*a*) 5,000,000 and for a two-day poll, (*b*) 10,000,000. (*a*) is 10·7 per cent of the total and 21·4 of the adult population, (*b*) is 21·4 *of the total population and 42·9 of the adult population. Government, however, have already stated that they can probably poll about 5 millions in a day, representing approximately an electorate of 6,700,000 which is 14·3 per cent of the total* population and 28·7 of the total adult population. Government are strongly against a longer polling period than two days both on administrative and public grounds and would prefer to use every means possible to ensure the poll being carried out in one day. The Government agree with the Provincial Committee that members of local boards and municipalities and honorary magistrates should not be regarded as officials for polling duties, but consider that there is probably a considerable body of non-officials who will take no active part in party politics and could be drawn on to work as assistant Presiding Officers under senior Presiding Officers of gazetted rank. Wives of gazetted officers of Government could also be appointed Presiding Officers in certain cases for polling stations for women only.

Q. 3.—Information as to the total number of Government officers has already been furnished to the Committee during its *sittings in* Madras and is repeated as Appendix I to this letter. *The total number* of Government officers, gazetted and *non-gazetted, considered* suitable for appointment as Presiding or assistant *Presiding* Officers is 6,597. Of these 1,361 are stationed *in Madras and will not be normally* available for duty except in Madras *City and its neighbourhood.*

(1) Of the officers in the districts 4,000 is the maximum which it is considered fassible to employ without dislocation of the work of Government and another 1,000 may be found from pensioned Government officers, local board and municipal officials and the officers stationed in Madras.

[24th March 1932

(2) The total number of pensioned Government officers on pension over Rs. 35 is 3,891 of whom 1,036 are in Madras.

(3) The establishment lent for service under the Court of Wards is included in (1).

(4) The total number of members of local bodies and honorary magistrates is as follows:—

Municipalities	1,938
District boards	1,024
Taluk boards	2,539
Honorary magistrates	1,565

It is not considered desirable to use village schoolmasters, but lecturers and masters in secondary schools and colleges will be amongst those drawn upon by the Collector for his list of non-officials to be employed.

(5) Complete figures for officials employed under district boards and municipalities have not yet been received. Information so far gathered is as follows:—

—	Those drawing Rs. 35 and over. (1)	Number in (1) drawing Rs. 50 and over. (2)	Number in (1) drawing Rs. 100 and over. (3)
District boards (20 out of 25).	3,480	1,448	547
Madras City—			
Men	1,712	820	221
Women	554	151	17
Municipalities (54 out of 81).	2,309	953	320

Separate compartments and booths can be provided for female voters where necessary. Government agree with the Provincial Committee that as a general rule such provision is not necessary in rural tracts and it is only for Muslim women and possibly for urban areas, where the poll of women voters may be fairly heavy, that any separate arrangements are really necessary.

Q. 4 *&* 5.—The franchise qualifications stated in the reply to question 1 will enfranchise the maximum number of electors which the Government consider it administratively possible to poll satisfactorily. It is not possible to state with any exactitude what proportion of women will be enfranchised under these qualifications, but the Government believe that the modifications of their previous proposals now recommended will not reduce the number of women previously estimated to be enfranchised, and if anything may increase it owing to the provision for their acquiring a vote as guardians of minors and as sole tenants of houses on which property tax has been paid. The number will be in the neighbourhood of 900,000 or 8·88 of the adult female population. With the lowering of the literacy qualification for men the proportion of women voters to the total electorate will be somewhat reduced but still will be substantially higher than it is at present.

24th March 1932]

Q. 6.—The Government are in entire agreement with the Provincial Committee in its opinion that either a universal indirect system of adult suffrage or a combination of direct voting and a group system is undesirable in this Province.

Q. 7.—The Government are *strongly against any proposal to introduce* the group system of election and on the possibility of its being imposed on them are unable to state in what way they would have to modify their proposals for the direct electorate without knowing details as regards number of primaries, method of election of secondaries, etc., that would be proposed. It is anticipated that this Government's final proposals for the franchise will give the right to vote to at least 6½ million people. The estimate is worked out as follows:—

(1) Income-tax	35,000
(2) Motor-tax	19,000
(3) Ryots	4,916,000
(4) Ground-rent	...
(5) and (6) Urban property and profession tax	326,000
(7) Special tenures	300,000
(8) Leases, etc.	...
(9) Guardians	...
(10) Tenants of houses ... ... (Madras City only available.)	2,000
(11) Military	...
(12) Literacy—Men	1,616,000
Women	250,000
(13) Joint pattadars, etc.	30,000
Total ...	6,494,000

The previous figures given for municipal qualifications have been reduced on account of probable non-payment and the removal of vehicle and animal taxes from the list of qualifying taxes. Income-tax and motor-tax payees are probably mostly covered by other qualifications. About 900,000 of the 6,500,000 voters will be women. The number of male voters will therefore be 5,600,000. The number of adult males is 11,932,000 and the number of males without votes will therefore be 6,332,000. Of these, however, a considerable number will be members of families or households, the head of which has a vote, and Government are inclined to think that the statement made by the Provincial Committee in its answer to question 7 that in this Province Muhammadans and Indian Christians very largely follow the Hindu custom, and enjoy the family property in common and have landed property registered in the name of one only, is in the main correct. We may therefore assume that out of the 6,332,000 voteless males 5,600,000 × × ½ or 4,200,000 will have representation through the heads of the families. This leaves a balance of 2,132,000 illiterates of castes and communities entirely unrepresented and of these about 1·14 million will be Adi-Dravidas (depressed

[24th March 1932

classes) to whom, if the system of separate electorates proposed by Government and the Provincial Committee is accepted, fairly adequate representation as a community will be secured. The remaining million *illiterates* will be—

(*a*) *In Madras City.*—Illiterates who neither own nor occupy as sole tenants houses of Rs. 36 and more annual value, nor have incomes of Rs. 100 a month and are not hotel-keepers, eating-house keepers or shop-keepers paying the special tax on such, nor possess any of the other of the property qualifications. It should be stated here that under the Madras City Act the Corporation can tax houses of Rs. 18 annual value and above, but does not at present impose property tax on houses below Rs. 36 annual value.

(*b*) *In district municipalities.*—Illiterates who neither own nor occupy as sole tenants houses of Rs. 12 and more annual value, nor have incomes of Rs. 25 a month nór possess any other of the property qualifications.

(*c*) *In rural areas.*—(1) Illiterate persons who live in panchayat villages in which house tax or profession tax is levied, but pay neither of these taxes nor any tax to Government and are landless or are small cultivators on the crop-sharing system or on leases of less than Rs. 50 annual value.

(2) Illiterate persons who live in other villages but pay no tax to Government or are either landless or are small cultivators on the crop-sharing system or on leases of less than Rs. 50 annual value.

It is not possible to particularize further, and in general it may be said that the residue who are not members of the depressed classes will be illiterate landless labourers and illiterate petty cultivators of others' lands and beggars.

Q. 8.—The Government are in agreement with the views of the Provincial Committee.

Q. 9.—The Government are in agreement with the views of the Provincial Committee.

Q. 10.—The Government adhere to the method for the election of a quota of women members to the Legislative Council already suggested by them.

Q. 11.—The Government accept the suggestion that women managing the property of minors should be given the vote and have included it in their proposed franchise qualifications, item (9).

Q. 12.—It has been possible in the time available to get information as to the number of Adi-Dravida or depressed class voters on the local boards and municipal rolls for six districts in all and the estimated number of depressed class voters on the original franchise proposals is now 366,000 for the whole Presidency assuming that the number of electors of the depressed classes bears the same proportion to the total depressed classes population in the whole Presidency as in these six districts. It is anticipated that the lowering of the literacy qualification will make up for any decrease in the number of such electors

caused by cutting out animal and vehicle taxes as a qualification and by raising the limit for leases, written or oral, to qualify. As a check on the estimate of 366,000 it may be stated that the total number of *Adi-Dravida* ryotwari single pattadars paying Re. 1 or more is 219,000 out of a total of 2,984,000 single ryotwari pattadars paying Re. 1 or more of all classes, and the number of Adi-Dravidas in municipalities paying Re. 1 or more taxation is 9,000. Out of the 703,000 pattadars paying less than one rupee each probably at least 54,000 are Adi-Dravidas. To these figures should be added something which is difficult to estimate for depressed class ryots in proprietary estates which cover an extent equal to about one-third of the ryotwari land in the Presidency.

Q. 13.—Government adhere to their previous proposal for special labour constituencies, but with the following modifications:—

(1) Minimum monthly wage earnings to be Rs. 12 for men and Rs. 8 for women.

(2) Qualifying period of employment to be six months within the year preceding the preparation or revision of the electoral roll.

(3) An elector to be registered only on application.

(4) Candidates for the special labour constituencies must either be on the electoral roll of any of these constituencies in the Presidency or have been a member for two years preceding his nomination of a registered permanent trade union of industrial workers in the Presidency with a strength of not less than 500 members.

Q. 14.—Government agree with the Provincial Committee that wages unsupported by taxation evidence should not be made a qualification for the vote in general constituencies.

Q. 15.—The average daily rates of wages of factory workers for the Presidency and for Madras City are exhibited in the following table:—

Main class of labour.	Average daily rate of wages in Madras City factories.			Average daily rate of wages paid in all factories in the Presidency. 1929.			1930.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Skilled labour—									
Engine driver	1	12	11	1	5	4	1	5	11
Fireman	1	0	9	0	11	4	0	11	4
Oilman	0	14	10	0	9	0	0	9	3
Fitter	1	7	3	1	4	4	1	4	5
Turner	1	8	6	1	2	5	1	2	0
Rivetter	1	2	0	0	14	2	0	13	4
Boilersmith	1	8	9	1	4	10	1	4	5
Blacksmith	1	5	11	1	2	2	1	1	7
Moulder	1	4	5	1	2	5	1	0	6

Main class of labour.	Average daily rate of wages in Madras City factories.			Average daily rate of wages paid in all factories in the Presidency. 1929.			1930.		
	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.	RS.	A.	P.
Skilled labour—*cont.*									
Carpenter	1	4	3	1	0	9	1	0	8
Bricklayer	1	6	1	1	0	6	0	15	11
(Compositor printer) ..	1	0	2	0	15	7	0	14	4
Mechanist	1	1	3	1	0	4	1	0	6
Weaver (cotton), man ..	1	10	5	0	10	8	1	0	10
Do. boy ..	0	11	7		..		0	7	11
Spinner (cotton), man ..	1	9	7	0	9	10	0	12	7
Do. boy ..	0	9	4	0	5	4	0	5	11
Weaver (jute), man ..		..		0	10	0	0	9	4
Do. boy ..		..		0	3	2	0	6	6
Spinner (jute), man ..		..		0	9	4	0	9	5
Do. boy ..		..		0	4	8	0	4	1
Unskilled labour—									
Female coolie (gin) ..		..		0	4	11	0	5	2
Male do. ..		..		0	7	9	0	8	3
Female coolie (press) ..		..		0	6	0	0	5	6
Male do ..		..		0	10	7	0	9	1
Female coolie (rice mill).		..		0	4	6	0	4	8
Male do. ..		..		0	8	0	0	7	8
Female coolie in fields ..		..		0	4	10	0	5	2
Male do. ..		..		0	7	9	0	8	0
Female coolie (tile press)		..			..			..	
Male do.		..			..			..	

Before the Whitley Commission the Employers' Federation of Southern India gave as the wages of industrial labourers, unskilled young adults at Rs. 13 to Rs. 14 per month, unskilled adults, Rs. 18 to Rs. 20 per month, semi-skilled adults, men, Rs. 23 to Rs. 25 per month, skilled adults, men, Rs. 35 to Rs. 60 per month, piece-workers, men, Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per month, unskilled workers, women, Rs. 14 to Rs. 18 per month. The Labour Union, Coimbatore, gave the wages obtaining in Coimbatore Mills as from Rs. 12 a month up to Rs. 30 a month, while women on the average drew Rs. 12 a month. In the Government Press wages range from Rs. 15 up to Rs. 40 a month. The Madras Government Press Labour Union stated that the average wage was

24th March 1932]

something less than Rs. 25 a month. The Buckingham and Carnatic Mills Employees' *Union gave as minimum* wages, *1929*, females Rs. 11-11-6 per month and adult males from Rs. 16 to Rs. 33-6-0.

Q. 16.—Government have nothing to add to what was stated in paragraph 8 of their letter No. 298-A, dated 23rd February 1932.

Q. 17.—The reply is in the negative. It is mainly on account of the proposed very large extension of the electorate that the Government are now *in* favour *of* a second chamber.

Q. 18 & 19.—The views of the Government remain the same as those already expressed in the replies to questions 6 *(a)*, *(b)* and *(c)* of the original questionnaire given in paragraphs 18, 19 and 20 of their Letter No. 298, dated 22nd February 1932.

Q. 20.—The Government are of the opinion that both Indian and European Commerce of the Madras Province should be specially represented by one member each in the Federal Lower Chamber. But if it should be decided that out of the number of seats allotted to the Province it is not possible to give both a communal seat to Europeans and a special *interest seat for European Commerce, the communal seat is to be prefer*red. Indian Commerce in any circumstances should have a seat.

Q. 21.—Government are in agreement with the views expressed by the Provincial Committee.

Q. 22.—Government consider that no further modification of their original proposals is necessary.

Q. 23.—The regulations for the preparation of electoral rolls for Commerce and Industry constituencies will be found on pages 61 to 63 of the Madras Legislative Council Manual, 1930, Volume II, of which a copy has already been supplied to you and regulations for the conduct of elections will be found on pages 65 to 67, 73 to 78 and 86 to 88. Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, the Rules and Regulations of the Madras Chamber of Commerce and Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Nattukottai Nagarathars' Association, Madras, are enclosed. An explanation of *some of* the land tenure and other terms used will be found in Appendix II.

APPENDIX I.

Name of the district.		Total number of non-Gazetted officers. Number of persons drawing Rs. 35 and over. (1)	Number in (1) who are drawing Rs. 50 and over. (2)	Number in (1) who are drawing Rs. 100 and over. (3)	Total number of Gazetted officers. (4)
1. Anantapur ..	..	605	244	128	27
2. North Arcot ..	..	911	309	149	44
3. South Arcot	..	762	388	134	50
4. Bellary ..	..	629	241	125	41
5. Chingleput ..	..	695	271	147	69
6. Chittoor ..	..	580	217	111	31
7. Coimbatore ..	..	1,178	366	178	118
8. Cuddapah ..	..	648	249	114	27
9. Ganjam ..	..	819	311	141	49
10. East Godavari	..	1,107	404	195	91
11. West Godavari	..	615	224	100	45
12. Guntur ..	..	850	301	148	51
13. South Kanara	..	657	246	122	45
14. Kistna ..	..	1,019	306	118	61
15. Kurnool ..	..	611	232	139	32
16. Madura ..	..	919	288	151	64
17. Malabar ..	..	1,907	491	266	121
18. Nellore ..	..	693	210	139	38
19. Nilgiris, the ..	..	317	155	136	48
20. Ramnad ..	..	659	201	102	45
21. Salem ..	..	1,023	322	168	77
22. Tanjore ..	..	1,360	457	212	134
23. Tinnevelly ..	..	938	271	141	60
24. Trichinopoly	..	894	313	141	56
25. Vizagapatam	..	991	429	194	113
26. Madras ..	..	2,942	1,894	796	565
Total	..	24,329	9,340	4,495	2,102

APPENDIX II.

1. *Registered landholder* means a person owning an estate or part thereof and includes every person entitled to collect the rents of the whole or any portion of the estate by virtue of any transfer from the owner or his predecessor-in-title or of any order of a competent court or any provision of the law and who has been registered as such by the Collector. *Estate* means (*a*) any permanently settled estate or temporarily settled zamindari or any portion of such which is separately registered in the office of the Collector, (*b*) any unsettled palaiyam or jaghir, (*c*) any village of which the land revenue alone has been granted in *inam* (as gift) to a person not owning the *kudivaram* (occupancy right) thereof, provided that the grant has been made, confirmed or recognized by the British Government, or any separate part of such village. Such villages are generally known as *whole inam* villages, (*d*) any portion consisting of one or more villages of any of the estates above in (*a*) and (*b*) which is held on a permanent under-tenure. The essential condition in all estates is that the Government has assigned to or recognized the right of the landholder to collect land revenue or rent from the cultivating tenants. The landholder has generally to make certain payments to Government. Some of the zamindaris are very large estates and as big as many of the smaller states in other parts of India.

2. *Land Revenue* is the commuted value of the Government share of the produce of the surface cultivation on all occupied land.

3. *Inamdar.*—(1) The proprietor of a whole inam village, or (2) a person who holds a *minor inam* in a village. A *minor inam* is a small grant of land within a village which if not an inam would be subject to ordinary land revenue; it is subject to payment of local-fund cesses calculated on its nominal land revenue assessment and generally also to a small quit-rent.

4. *Ryotwari pattadar.*—The owner of land not being inam in a Government as distinguished from a proprietary village. He has full title in his holding subject to the payment of the land revenue assessed thereon.

5. *Patta.*—A signed and sealed extract from the Government land revenue accounts showing the extent of a ryot's holding, wet and dry and the assessment or land revenue payable thereon. Every Government ryot is entitled to this document. The holder of the patta is termed the pattadar.

6. *Occupancy ryot* means a ryot in an estate having a permanent right of occupancy in his holding.

7. *Fasli* is the revenue year from 1st July to 30th June.

8. *Kanamdar, Kuzhikanamdar, Kudiyiruppu holder and verumpattadar* are persons in Malabar district holding various rights in land as intermediaries or tenants under the janmi who is, so far as the payment of land revenue is concerned, the pattadar. The land is nominally ordinary ryotwari land, but owing to the growth of these sub-rights by

[illegible]th March 1932

custom confirmed by legislation, the janmi is treated as a landholder and all paying land revenue of Rs. 500 or over are entitled to be registered in the electoral roll for the special landholders' constituency. The various rights and tenures are governed and defined by the Malabar Tenancy Act, 1929.

9. *Registered* means registered in the Government land revenue accounts or records.

10. *Tahsildar* is the officer in charge of a taluk. There are ordinarily seven to nine taluks in a district. He is a non-gazetted officer on pay of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 per month.

11. *Gazetted officers* are officers whose appointments and transfers are notified in the *Fort St. George Gazette.* Their pay is from Rs. 300 per month upwards.

12. *Village officers* are the headman and karnam (accountant) of a revenue village or group of villages. Every municipality forms one or more revenue villages and has its village officers in the same way as any rural village.

29408